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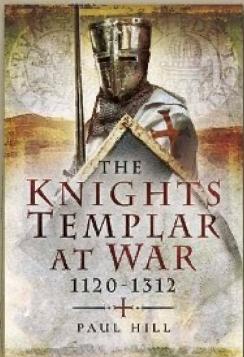
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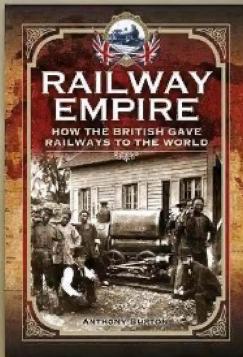


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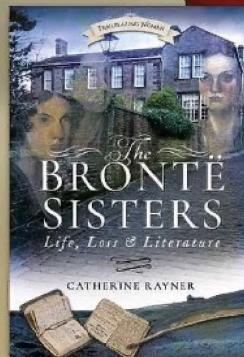
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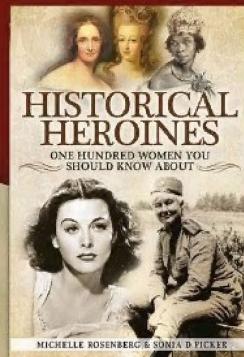
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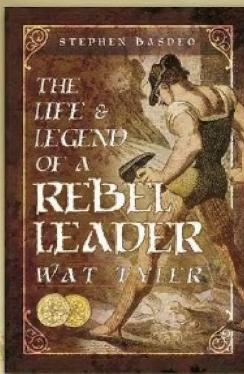
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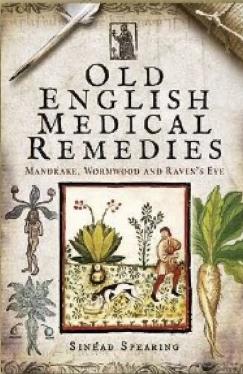
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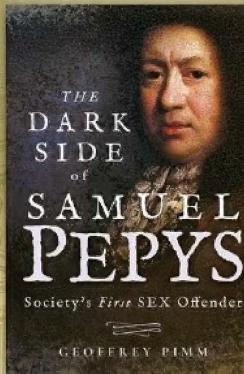
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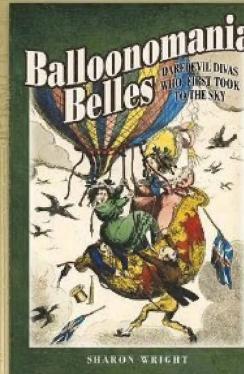
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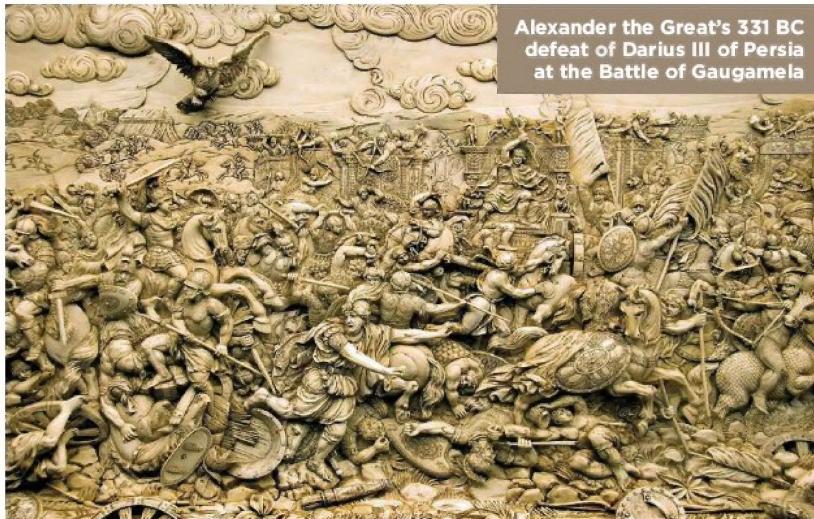
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Alexander the Great's 331 BC defeat of Darius III of Persia at the Battle of Gaugamela

Great expectations



There are many characters from history who have been given the epithet 'the Great' – Cyrus II of Persia, Ramesses II of Egypt and Catherine of Russia, to name a few. But when it comes to **the greatest of the great**, it's hard to look beyond Alexander, king of the Ancient Greek kingdom of Macedon, whose genius both as a leader and warrior led to him creating arguably **the greatest empire in the history of humankind** – and all before his 30th birthday. But who was the man behind the legend, and **what drove him to conquer such a vast stretch of land**, from Europe through Africa, into the Middle East, and beyond, to Asia? Find out from page 28.

Heroic characters of a different kind feature throughout the issue, none more so than Irena Sendler (p41), a Polish woman whose courage and daring saw her **rescue some 2,500 children from the snatches of the Nazis** in the Warsaw Ghetto during the Holocaust.

And with **China's Terracotta Warriors** (p48) soon to land in Liverpool, we preview the ground-breaking exhibition. As always, **please write in** and let us know what you think of the issue!

Paul McGuinness
Editor

Don't miss our March issue, on sale 22 February

THIS MONTH WE'VE LEARNED...

30

Minimum voting age for women in 1918. Other class-based restrictions also applied. See page 20.

25,000

The approximate number of people who died constructing the Panama Canal, a 40-mile strip of water that first linked the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans in 1914. See page 56.

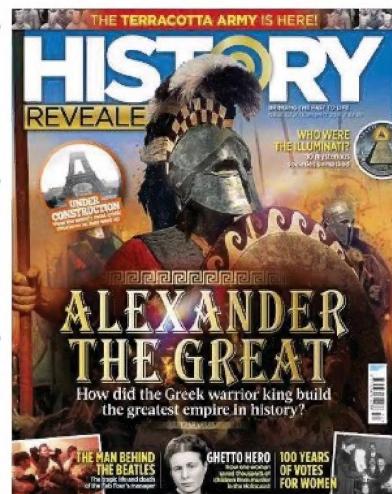
2,500

Annual number of prosecutions for homosexual behaviour in the UK by 1955. See page 64.

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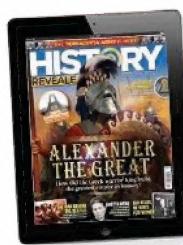


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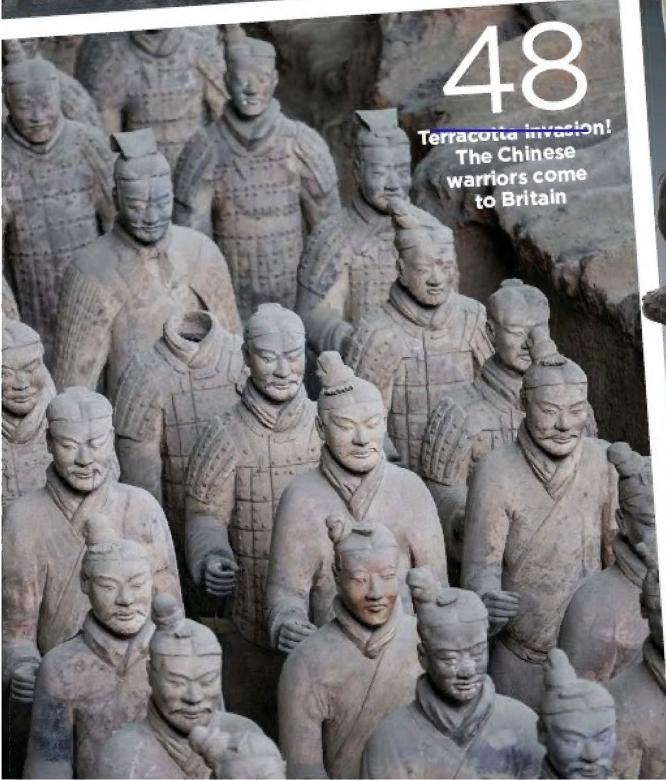
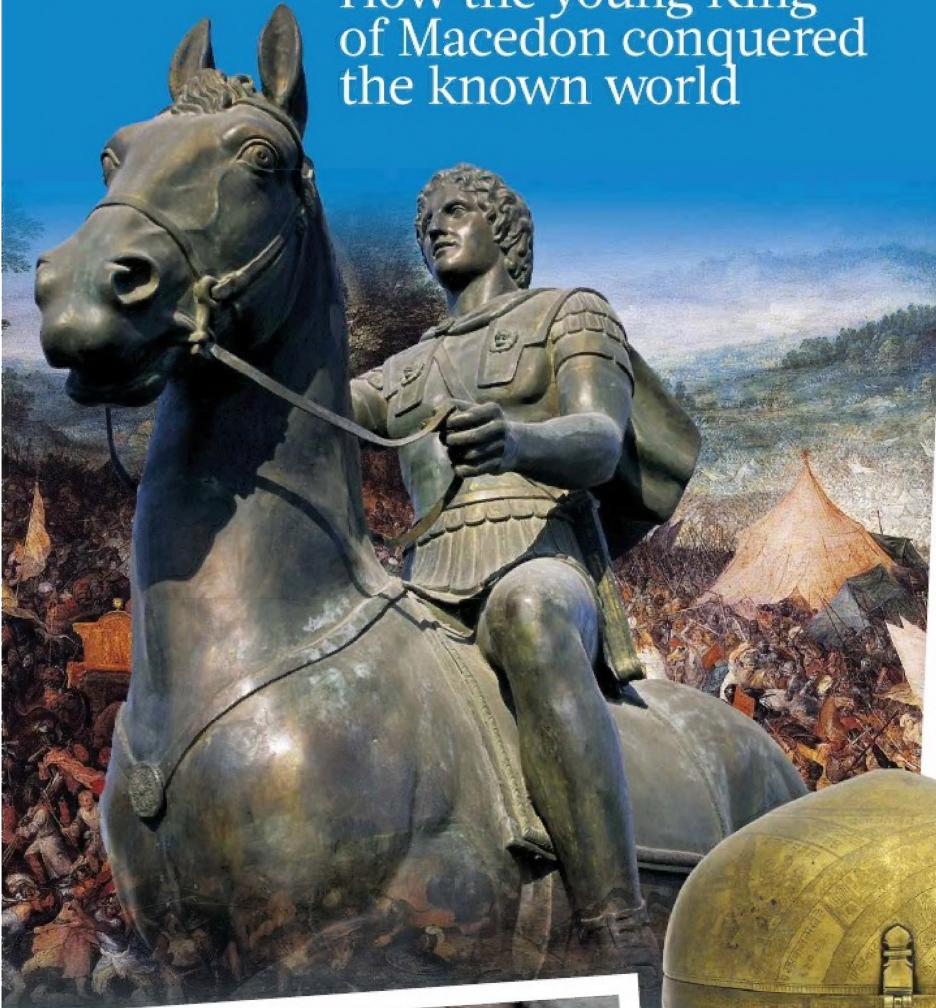
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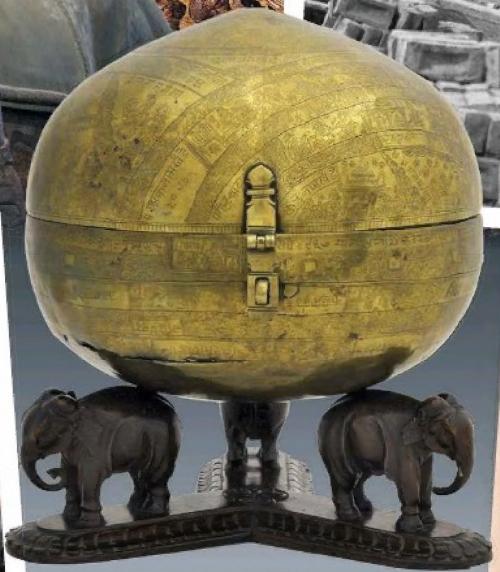
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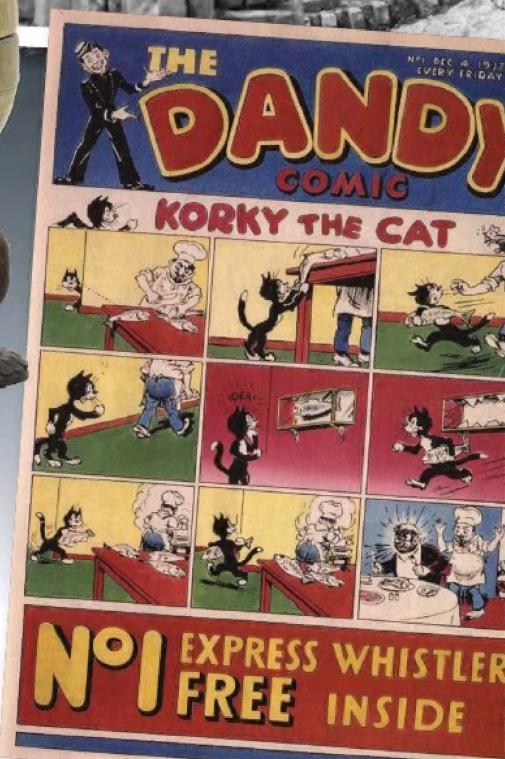


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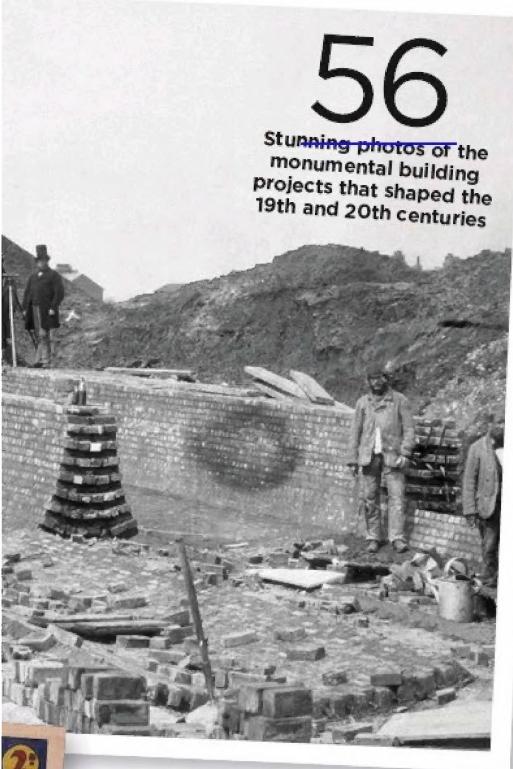
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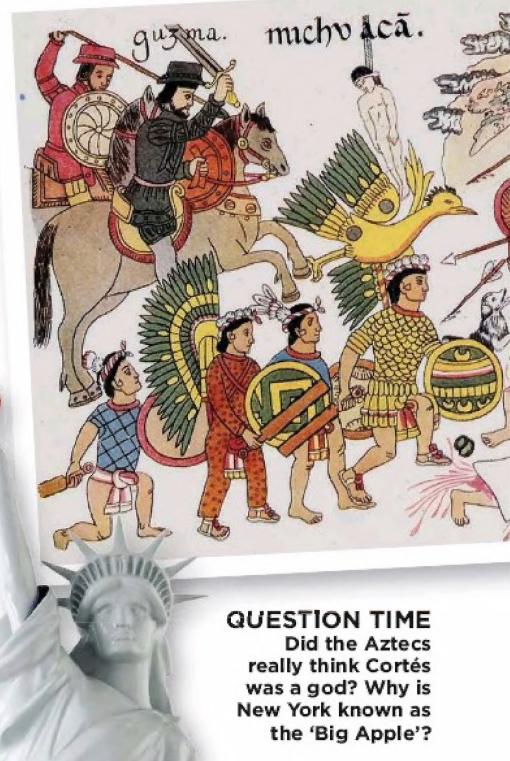
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1935 THE 'GIRAFFE WOMEN'

A local London bobby comes to the rescue of this group of Kayan Lahwi, from Myanmar, as they explore the city, while trying to ignore the bemused stares of the bowler-wearing men they pass. They have been invited to Britain to star in ever-popular circuses, advertised as 'giraffe women'. Despite the name, the brass coils they wear - the older the woman, the more rings she has - don't actually lengthen their necks, but push down on their collar bones.



1945 IN HELL ON IWO JIMA

US Marines take out an enemy cave on Hill 382, where some of the most fierce fighting in the Battle of Iwo Jima took place. They called the area the 'meat grinder'. The Americans hoped to establish a base on the island, an eight-square-mile speck in the Pacific, from which to attack Japan, but overpowering the tens of thousands of defenders - all intent on fighting to the last man from their defensive tunnels, bunkers and caves - came at a heavy price. It was the only battle in the Pacific Theatre of World War II where US casualties outnumbered the Japanese.



SNAPSHOTS

PIANOS FR (OTHER)



EE FOR FUEL RS ABOVE)



1947 **TIMBRE FOR TIMBER**

In the early months of 1947, the British endure a white winter to remember. Weeks of snowstorms block roads and railways, force businesses to shut, spark fears of food shortages, freeze farmers' crops and herds and affect electrical supplies so badly that the Minister of Fuel and Power, Emanuel Shinwell, receives death threats. People find fuel wherever they can - Mickleburgh musical instrument manufacturers, in Bristol, give away pianos to locals looking to keep warm by burning the ivories.



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HISTORY IN THE NEWS

NEW TECHNIQUES UNCOVER ANCIENT EGYPTIAN SECRETS

Digital imaging could save artefacts from destruction

Rather than throw their old bits of papyrus away, Ancient Egyptians would recycle them to make a number of items including mummy masks and cases. The scraps were pasted together to form 'cartonnage' that was then covered with plaster and brightly painted, hiding the papyrus text inside and making it impossible to read without damaging the artefact.

A recent pilot project at University College London (led by Profs Melissa Terras and Adam Gibson) could result in these bits of papyrus being deciphered and historic objects saved from destruction. Digital imaging technology

on mummy cases can identify iron- or carbon-based inks and make the unreadable readable. The technique, still in its early stages, could offer a glimpse into everyday life in Egypt.

Dr Kathryn Piquette, Egyptologist and imaging specialist on the project, has been involved in another undertaking in reading lost writing, and has achieved a remarkable success. Using multispectral imaging, she and PhD student Cerys Jones have discovered the name of the owner on a 2,500-year-old coffin lid, which is held at Chiddington Castle, Kent.

The hieroglyphics have faded, but infrared (IR) illumination



and visible-induced infrared luminescence (VIL) have been able to reveal the name 'Irethereru' near the feet of the wooden lid. A common male name of the time, it means 'the eye of Horus is against them', (probably referring to enemies).

"I am very excited by the potential of advanced imaging techniques to reveal the hidden histories of ancient artefacts," says Dr Piquette. "Multispectral imaging provides a powerful non-destructive technique for exploring cultural heritage, and for making the invisible visible."



'THE EYE OF HORUS IS AGAINST THEM'
(l-r): A visible light photo of the foot of the coffin lid; appearance under IR; the image in VIL, which helped to uncover the name of Irethereru

HIGHLIGHTS

SIX OF THE BEST...

The greatest finds by a metal detectorist in Britain....p14



YOUR HISTORY

Broadcaster, academic and writer Alice Roberts....p17



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(Some) British women finally get the vote....p20



TIME CAPSULE: 1606

Significant events from one year in history....p22



METAL DETECTORIST STRIKES GOLD WITH "SUPERB" MEDIEVAL RING

The 'bishop's' ring found near Beverley Minster could sell at auction for £10,000

Since Adam Day took up the hobby of metal detecting three years ago, he has already made some impressive discoveries, including a Bronze Age axe and a Celtic brooch. As he puts it, though, his most recent find is his "best yet".

While detecting in a field, with the farmer's permission, in Yorkshire, the 30-year-old heavy-goods driver from Hull dug up a gold ring. Immediately, he knew he had found something special. "I was shaking when I found it," he says. "It was quite close to the surface, not buried deep in the ground."

The 20-carat gold ring features engravings of St George and St Catherine as well as floral emblems. Dating from between 1450 and 1550, experts claim it may have been commissioned



NICE RING TO IT
Metal detectorist Adam Day was shaking with excitement when he made his find



by a bishop from Beverley Minster, one of the largest parish churches in the UK.

The ring is set to be sold at auction in late January and could go for as much as £10,000. Half of the money will go to the farmer who owns the land. "It is a superb example of the craftsmanship of the time," says Adam Staples, Historica expert at Hansons Auctioneers. "Only high-ranking figures such as bishops or

nobility would have been able to afford a ring of such high quality featuring fine decorative engraving and faceting.

"What Englishman wouldn't want to own a 15th-century ring featuring St George, the patron saint of England?" he adds.

SIX OF THE BEST... METAL DETECTING FINDS

Our pick of the greatest finds made by detectorists in Britain



1 STAFFORDSHIRE HOARD

With more than 3,500 items, it is the largest collection of Anglo-Saxon gold and silver yet found. The hoard, detected in 2009 by Terry Herbert, was bought for £3.285 million.



2 HOXNE HOARD

Eric Lawes unearthed nearly 15,000 Roman coins, when he had gone into the Suffolk field to look for a local farmer's lost hammer. They had been carefully sorted into individual boxes.



3 FROME HOARD

Dave Crisp went even bigger – he found over 52,500 Roman coins in a Somerset field in 2010. From the third and early-fourth centuries, they had all been stuffed into a single clay pot.



4 RINGLEMERE CUP

The Bronze Age gold cup, found by Cliff Bradshaw in 2001, now sits in pride of place in the British Museum – despite being crushed by a plough while still in the ground.



5 STIRLING TORCS

David Booth located four gold Iron Age torcs, later valued at £462,000, on his first time out with a detector. What's more, it had been a few steps from where he parked his car.



6 VALE OF YORK HOARD

Buried in a field near Harrogate, the father-son team of David and Andrew Whelan detected Viking treasure – a gilt silver vessel crammed with coins, ingots and precious metal.

TIME PIECE

A look at everyday objects from the past



Knowing that this item is of Viking heritage, it is understandable if the first thought that comes to mind is 'axe'. In fact, instead of warfare, it concerns the other great Norse skill – sailing. This highly decorative, gilded bronze weather vane would be mounted on to a ship, perhaps with streamers attached, and turned depending on the direction of the wind. Viking mastery of navigating and seafaring allowed them to cross oceans to reach new lands, such as Britain in the late-eighth century.



VIRTUAL VERSUS REALITY
The bricks of the Baths of Caracalla get the VR treatment

If you're planning a trip to Rome, be sure to look further afield than the Colosseum and head to the Baths of Caracalla. The complex, the largest public baths in the Roman Empire when built in AD 216, can now be explored using virtual-reality goggles.

Tours will show the (still-impressive) brick remains as the original vaulted chambers, columns and, of course, the pools, tubs and saunas. The baths, covering some 100,000 square metres, could look after the bathing needs of 1,600 Romans at a time, with the baths heated by 50 underground ovens. It also boasted a gym, dozens of places to eat and two libraries. "The rooms are stripped like

NORSE POWER

This helped the Vikings conquer, just not on the battlefield



IN THE NEWS

TAKE THE VR PLUNGE AT ANCIENT ROMAN BATHS

3D tours show the vast complex of the Baths of Caracalla in their original third-century glory

skeletons, but put on the goggles and you will see we have put the mosaics, marble and statues back where they were," says the site director Marina Piranomonte.

"This is the first archaeological site in Italy, and possibly the world, to be brought alive with this kind of virtual-reality technology," adds Giovanni Barni, head of the VR developer Coop Culture. "We hope it enriches people's visits."

HISTORY IN COLOUR

Colourised photographs that bring the past to life

See more colourised pictures by
Marina Amaral  @marinamaral2



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POLISH FAMILIES FORCED TO FLEE

The end of World War II saw refugees make treacherous marches across Europe

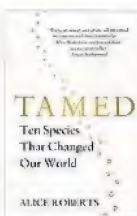
1945: Bitterly cold and scared, Polish women and children follow the railway lines into Berlin, having walked from the Polish city of Łódź nearly 300 miles away. They are among the millions expelled from eastern Europe in the wake of Germany's defeat.



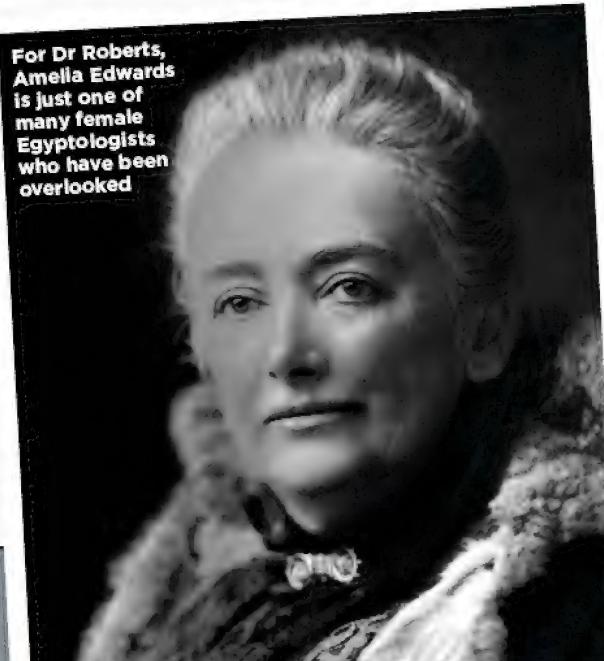
YOUR HISTORY

Alice Roberts

The academic, author and broadcaster talks about the tragic mistakes made by colonisation and why women are often written out of history



Tamed: Ten Species that Changed our World explores how domesticating the plant and animal kingdoms led to the development of human society



For Dr Roberts, Amelia Edwards is just one of many female Egyptologists who have been overlooked

Q If you could turn back the clock, which single event in history would you want to change?

This is such a difficult question. I think it would have to be something around the European colonisation of other continents and countries, and I'd wish for that process of engagement with other societies and cultures to have been more respectful and based on exchange and mutual benefit – rather than conquest, exploitation and oppression. This isn't a single event, of course, but it's a philosophy and approach that played out again and again, in the Americas, Africa and Australia. We have to hope that we will eventually be able to repair some of the damage caused by those historical interactions, even if we can never make up for the enormous loss of lives and loss of culture.

Q If you could meet any figure from history, who would it be?

When I filmed Celts for BBC Two, I examined the astonishing grave of the Bettelbühl Princess from southwestern Germany. She was interred in a wooden-

chambered grave with prestigious grave goods, including beautiful gold jewellery, 2,600 years ago. I'd love to know more about her, and the status of women in that Iron Age society.

Q If you could visit any historical landmark in the world tomorrow, where would you go?

I have never been to Egypt, and yet I've been fascinated by the Ancient Egyptians since childhood! I'd love to visit the pyramids and the Sphinx.

Q Who is your unsung history hero?

Amelia Edwards, the co-founder of the Petrie Museum, and sometimes called the 'Godmother of Egyptology'. There's a long history of female researchers being overlooked, something that the wonderful TrowelBlazers project seeks to rectify. I would recommend you learn more about Amelia Edwards, and a host of other prominent female archaeologists, anthropologists and geologists on their website (www.trowelblazers.com). I remember their *Raising Horizons* photographic exhibition, which explored women's roles in archaeology, geology and palaeontology over the last 200 years.

“There’s a long history of female researchers being overlooked”



NO 1 DEC. 4 1937
EVERY FRIDAY

2⁰

THE DANDY COMIC

KORKY THE CAT



N^o 1 EXPRESS WHISTLER
FREE INSIDE

YESTERDAY'S PAPERS

Another timeless front page from the archives

THE FIRST DANDY COMIC GOES ON SALE

For 75 years, British youngsters got a weekly dose of anarchic comic strips and stories

Everyone's favourite cow-pie-scoffing strongman Desperate Dan and the other madcap, irreverent and colourful characters of the *Dandy* were first let loose on young readers – too used to the rules and discipline of the time – on 4 December 1937.

The inaugural issue of what would become Britain's longest-running comic went for two pence, and it came with a free whistle. It featured some of the most beloved residents of Dandytown, such as Korky the Cat on the cover, Keyhole Kate and, of course, the Dudley Watkins creation, Desperate Dan.

DESPERATE DAN

The broad-chinned and chested cowboy quickly became the star of the comic. He could lift a cow with one hand, slept on a pillow stuffed with rocks and shaved with a blowtorch. And he had an appetite to match his size and strength – he enjoyed eating an entire cow baked in a pie, horns and all, in one sitting.

With its unabashed humour and use of speech bubbles instead of dull looking captions, the *Dandy* was a hit. Released weekly, it proved so popular that its Dundee-based publisher

DC Thomson launched a similar comic, the *Beano*, a year later.

Paper shortages in the 1940s meant the *Dandy* had to become fortnightly, alternating with its 'rivals' from Beanotown, but that didn't stop Dan doing his bit. He single-handedly took out enemy subs and shot down planes with a pea shooter.

But once the war was over, children wanted simple, boisterous fun, leading to a golden age for comics. The *Dandy*, achieving a circulation of 2 million, became a weekly ritual for youngsters happy to part with their pocket money. Its success was all under the care of editor Albert Barnes (the apparent inspiration for Dan's chin), who stayed in the position from launch to 1982.

Unable to keep up with the digital age, despite several rebrands, the *Dandy* issued its final print edition in 2012, on its 75th anniversary. Yet it remains a cherished feature of many childhoods and a much desired piece of nostalgia. In 2004, a first issue, complete with whistle, sold at auction for £20,350. ☺



FUN TIMES
RIGHT: The *Dandy* was a pocket-money-priced treat for 2 million kids a week in its 1950s heyday TOP: The constantly hungry Desperate Dan was the comic's most popular character



HOMETOWN HERO
Dan is immortalised in Dundee, where publisher DC Thomson is based



THIS MONTH IN... 1918

Anniversaries that have made history

WOMEN GET THE VOTE AT LAST

After years of determined campaigning and daring direct action, women are finally granted suffrage

In February 1918 came the moment that millions had been waiting for. After a long and dangerous campaign – even fatal for some – the Representation of the People Act passed into law on 6 February. At last, British women had the vote.

In truth, it was something of an anti-climax. With Britain still at war, and newspapers daily carrying news of the horrifying death toll, exuberant celebrations would have been inappropriate. But it marked the culmination of years of struggle for those in the suffrage movement – from polite liberal debate that failed to bring change, to militant acts like hunger strikes, bombings and Emily Davison's sacrifice under the King's horse.

In the end, it was the war that provided the tipping point.

Women had done vital work while the men were away, and the Act was purportedly recognition of that. In fact, with limited suffrage – only women over 30 who were householders, wives of householders, occupiers of property of a certain value, or graduates could vote – it was middle-class women rather than those who had worked in factories who benefited.

But the principle was established. By November, women also gained the right to stand for parliament, so December 1918's general election was not only the first chance for 8.4 million women to vote, but some had the choice of a woman candidate. Even so, it took until 1928 for women to finally gain equal voting rights with men. ☺



LADIES FOR LIBERTY

LEFT: By 1910, the WSPU newspaper *Votes for Women* had a weekly circulation of 30,000 ABOVE: Though this first-time voter certainly looks pleased to post her ballot in the December 1918 general election, many felt unable to rejoice until equal voting rights had been achieved





**“Now, at last, one is
considered to be a
real, complete
human being!”**

Isabella Ford, member of the NUWSS Executive Committee

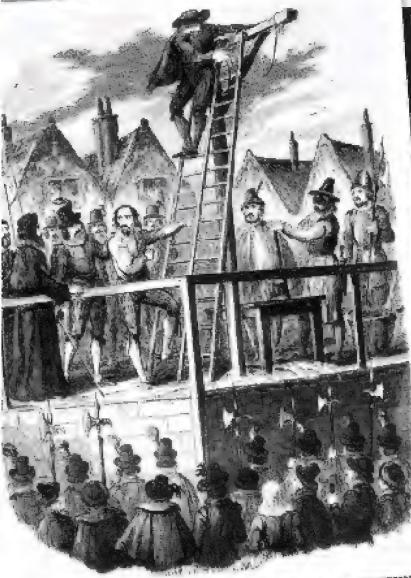
THE MAKING OF A MARTYR

A procession of 5,000 suffragettes all in white
accompanied the coffin of activist Emily
Davison, who was killed by the King's horse
after she walked onto the race track in protest



TIME CAPSULE 1606

Snapshots of the world from one year in the past



DODGING FATE

Although weakened by torture, Fawkes managed to jump to hasten his death



GUNPOWDER PLOT: GUY FAWKES DIES

The Catholic plot to blow up parliament on a day that King James I of England and Ireland and VI of Scotland would be in attendance, 5 November 1605, had been years in the making, only to fail the night before. One of the conspirators, Guy Fawkes, was found in the cellar underneath the House of Lords

alongside 36 barrels of gunpowder. After being tortured on the rack and a brief trial, he and other plotters were sentenced to be hanged, drawn and quartered. Yet Fawkes avoided this gruesome fate. As he climbed the steps to the gallows on 31 January 1606, he jumped from the scaffold and broke his neck.

As the explosives expert, Guy Fawkes was the only one left in the cellars when an anonymous letter to Lord Monteagle betrayed the plot

EUROPEANS 'FIND' TERRA AUSTRALIS

The Portuguese navigator Pedro Fernandes de Queirós set off with three ships in late 1605 to find Terra Australis, a supposed continent on the other side of the world from Europe. When he stepped foot on land in May 1606, he believed he had found this near-mythical land and named it La Australia del Espíritu Santo (The Southern Land of the Holy Spirit). In fact, Queirós had landed on one of the Pacific islands of Vanuatu.



MACBETH MAKES ITS DEBUT

Although we don't know for sure when William Shakespeare wrote his tragedy *Macbeth*, it is thought that the inaugural performance took place in 1606. *Macbeth* is a warrior-based very loosely on an 11th-century king – who is told by three witches that he will become king of Scotland. But when he kills to achieve his ambition, he is consumed with guilt and paranoia. The play came in a run of tragedies inked by the Bard, including *Hamlet*, *Othello* and *King Lear*.

FIRST CHARTER OF VIRGINIA ADOPTED



On 10 April 1606, King James I and VI granted rights to the Virginia Company to settle parts of the New World (from modern-day South Carolina to Canada). The royal charter was clear that the colonists should make efforts in "propagating [the] Christian religion", which, "may in time bring the infidels and savages, living in those parts, to human civility, and to a settled and quiet government". The first settlement, Jamestown, was established the following year.

DIED: 30 MAY GURU ARJAN

The fifth of the Sikh Gurus laid the foundation of the Golden Temple in Amritsar, India, and compiled the writings of the scripture, *Guru Granth Sahib* (both are now central pillars of Sikhism). When the Mughal Emperor Jahangir had him tortured and killed for his beliefs, Arjan became the first Sikh martyr.



BORN: 15 JULY REMBRANDT

The greatest artist of the Dutch Golden Age, Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn was born in Leiden to a miller and baker's daughter. An apprentice to several Dutch painters during his teens, it wasn't long before his genius was discovered and he became a prolific master draughtsman and printmaker, as well as a painter.

ALSO IN 1606...

19 MARCH

The Italian port Livorno is elevated to the rank of city in a grand ceremony led by the Grand Duke of Tuscany.

12 APRIL

The Union Flag, with the St George's Cross of England and St Andrew's Cross of Scotland, is first proposed for use on ships.

17 MAY

The Kremlin is stormed and Tsar Dmitry I, who had claimed to be the son of Ivan the Terrible, is executed.

16-18 AUGUST

Off the coast of Malaysia, the Dutch East India Company engages a Portuguese fleet. Despite losing, the Dutch fight so hard that a local ruler chooses to supply them.

20 SEPTEMBER

Gravediggers in Frankenstein, Poland go on trial for spreading plague, and are later executed – the possible inspiration for Mary Shelley's horror novel.

11 NOVEMBER

The Treaty of Zsitvatorok is signed between the Ottoman Empire and the Habsburgs, ending the Fifteen Years' War (which actually lasted 13 years).

GRAPHIC HISTORY

THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

The dramatic silhouette of the Palace of Westminster, known as the Houses of Parliament, is one of the most iconic on earth. The place where British laws are debated and decided has stood on the banks of the River Thames in London for almost 1,000 years, and has become a symbol of democracy and freedom of speech throughout the western world.

The original palace was built by Edward the Confessor between 1042-65. The site was the primary

residence of the kings of England until 1512, when much of it was destroyed in a fire, which prompted Henry VIII to move to the nearby Palace of Whitehall.

This presented an opportunity for the House of Commons, which swiftly made a permanent home for itself within Westminster. Another fire in 1834 meant the complex had to be built almost entirely anew.

Incredibly, Westminster Hall - built by William II between 1097-99 - survived both of these fires.

427

The number of seats in the House of Commons - despite there being 650 Members of Parliament



FACT FILE

LOCATION: City of Westminster, London
FIRST BUILT: 1016
REBUILT: 1840-70
TOTAL AREA: 112,476m²
NUMBER OF ROOMS: 1,100
STYLE: Gothic Revival

HOUSE RULES

- NO SMOKING •
(Members may, however, take snuff provided by the doorkeepers)
- NO EATING OR DRINKING •
(Except for the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who is allowed an alcoholic beverage while delivering the budget)
- NO HANDS IN POCKETS •
- NO READING OF NEWSPAPERS •
- NO APPLAUSE •

GUNPOWDER, TREASON AND PLOT

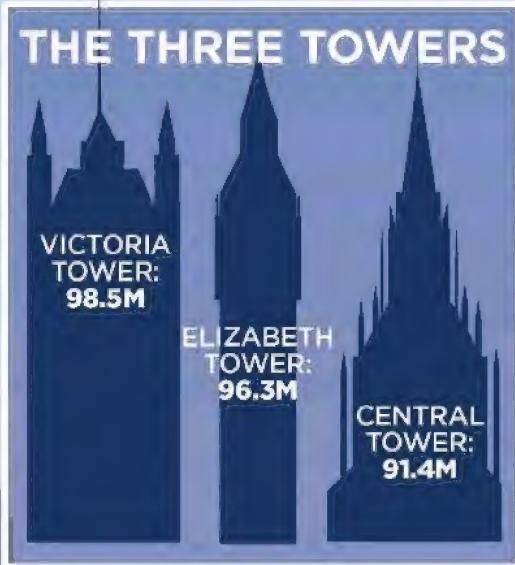
The Gunpowder Plot of 1605 was foiled when Guy Fawkes and 36 barrels of gunpowder were found in the cellar. To this day, the Yeoman carry out a search of the cellars before every State Opening.

OH WALTER, REALLY!

The tobacco-transporting English explorer Sir Walter Raleigh was executed at the Palace of Westminster after ransacking a Spanish outpost, in violation of a peace treaty with Spain.

2.5 METRES

Two red lines on the floor of the House of Commons separate the government from the opposition. They are 2.5 metres apart, or just over the length of two swords - supposedly to prevent duels from breaking out.



8,800m

The total length of shelves upon which the 3 million documents of the Parliamentary Archives are kept

MURDER IN THE PALACE

While walking through the lobby in 1812, Prime Minister Spencer Percival was shot dead by a disgruntled merchant. He remains the only British PM to have been assassinated.



WESTMINSTER HALL

Dating from 1097, Westminster Hall is the oldest building in the Houses of Parliament. When built, it was the largest hall in Europe, measuring 73 by 20 metres. It has played host to a number of significant trials, including those of William Wallace and Charles I, and has been used for lyings-in-state, including the body of Winston Churchill.



BIG BEN

This is not the name of the iconic clock tower, actually named the Elizabeth Tower, but the biggest bell in it. Big Ben, possibly named after the civil engineer who oversaw its installation, Sir Benjamin Hall, was cast in 1858. A crack gives the bell its distinctive sound.

NO CROWNS ALLOWED

Monarchs are not allowed to set foot in the chamber of the House of Commons. The last one to do so was Charles I, when he attempted to arrest five MPs in 1642.

LOBBY YOUR MP

Constituents may meet their Members of Parliament in the Central Lobby, even without an appointment. This is believed to be where the term 'lobbying' comes from.

14

The number of times the Palace of Westminster was hit by bombs during World War II



MAKING THE HOUSE A HOME

Suffragette Emily Wilding Davison hid in one of Parliament's broom cupboards the night before the 1911 census, in order to be registered as a resident of the House of Commons. A plaque to her audacious act can now be found in that cupboard.

HISTORY

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HISTORY
REVEALED Bringing the past to life

DID YOU KNOW?

Although only 32 when he died, Alexander had conquered 2 million square miles, from Persia to the Punjab, including Anatolia, Egypt, Phoenicia, Syria, Gaza, Bactria and Mesopotamia.



ALEXANDER THE GREAT

He was a military mastermind whose insatiable appetite for conquest built an empire that stretched across three continents. Spencer Day traces the incredible life of Alexander the Great



WORLD CHANGER
Made Macedon's king at age 20, over the next 12 years Alexander's military genius would irrevocably change the course of history

ARCANGEL X2



BORN WARRIOR

Alexander's mother Olympias (below), whose ambition was to make him a great leader; his father Philip II (below right), the warlord who Alexander would ultimately view as a rival

They must have made for a pitiful sight. On a cloudless day in early 332 BC, a small party of men staggered across the Saharan desert, seemingly heading for their deaths. They hadn't drunk for days, they were hopelessly lost and they were surrounded by a vast ocean of sand in every direction. But still their leader urged them on. He was, after all, a man on a mission.

Then the gods intervened. According to the historian Callisthenes, a sudden, violent rainstorm delivered the water the party so desperately craved, while two crows appeared in the sky and guided the men to their destination.

Against all the odds, the party's leader, Alexander the Great, would go on to fulfil his mission in the Saharan desert – to ask the oracle of the Siwa Oasis a question that had been troubling him for most of his life: "Am I the son of God?"

The oracle, we're told, answered in the affirmative – yes, Alexander was divine. Events would, of course, prove otherwise. Just nine years later, the mighty king of Macedon would die a slow, painful death, consigned to his grave by the tender age of 32. Yet in those 32 years, Alexander achieved feats way beyond the compass of most mortals. He led an army on a staggering 22,000-mile

campaign into Asia and back, forging a colossal empire that took in modern-day nations such as Pakistan, Greece, India, Turkey, Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan. He emerged victorious from every major battle he fought, humbling the known world's mightiest kingdoms. And, by spreading Greek thought and customs across his empire, he set the template for the religions and civilisations that would dominate the world for the next two millennia.

"No other single individual, either Greek or barbarian, has achieved such incredible success on so many occasions and to such an overwhelming extent," wrote the first-century AD Greek historian Arrian. And he was right. Alexander may not have been a god but, given his achievements, he can hardly be blamed for believing he was.

LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON

The iron will and military brilliance for which Alexander is famed seem to have been hard-wired into him from his birth in 356 BC. His father, King Philip II of Macedon, was a brilliant warlord who, in a few short years, turned his kingdom from a rag-tag collection of tribes into the dominant force in Greece. His mother, Olympias, was an eccentric, wilful, fanatically ambitious woman, who claimed that she had slept



Olympias dedicated her life to helping Alexander become the most powerful man in the world

with the god Zeus. It seems that, from the moment Alexander was born, she dedicated her life to helping him become the most powerful man in the world.

Philip's might and wealth enabled him to secure Alexander the best education that money could buy – a three-year apprenticeship with the Greek philosopher Aristotle. This would have a huge impact on the young Alexander, for



LOVE OF LEARNING

A 13th-century manuscript showing Philip entrusting the young Alexander to Aristotle, his tutor until age 16

not only did it, in the words of the Greek biographer Plutarch, result in Alexander being devoted to "all kinds of learning, and a lover of books", it introduced him to the great mythic heroes of Greek culture – famed warriors such as Achilles. By the time Alexander returned from Aristotle's classroom to the Macedonian capital, Pella, he seems to have been burning with ambition to emulate their deeds.

But there was a problem, and that came from an unlikely source – his father. Alexander appears to have been ambivalent about Philip's military conquests. While he no doubt gloried in Macedon's expansion, Plutarch tells us that Alexander fretted that there would be no glory left for *him* to attain. When Philip left Olympias and fathered a rival son and heir with his new bride, Cleopatra, Alexander could see his future as a heroic warrior-king in the mould of Achilles being wrenched from his hands.

Such was Macedon's dominance of Greece that, by 336 BC, Philip could consider expanding his territory further still. In his sights was the Persian king Darius III, ruler of what was then the largest empire in history, stretching from the shores of eastern Europe to the Indus Valley in central Asia. Darius had been meddling in Greek affairs for years; Philip now decided it was payback time.

But just as Philip's campaign against Persia was getting under way, disaster struck. While attending marriage celebrations for his daughter,

WHAT ALEXANDER LEFT BEHIND CULTURAL LEGACY

For centuries, historians and military strategists alike have extolled Alexander's genius as a soldier, and rightly so. But, for all that, perhaps his greatest impact on human history derives not from his brilliance as a commander but as a supreme cultural ambassador.

Alexander didn't simply wipe cities from the face of the Earth, before moving on to the next target – not all the time anyway. Instead, he left colonies of fellow Macedonians to administer conquered population centres, and they went about disseminating Greek methods of expression and thinking.

As a result, peoples from modern-day Turkey through Asia Minor all the way to India played Greek sports, watched Greek theatre, mimicked Greek art and adopted Greek scientific practices. In many cases, they continued to do so for centuries.

The cities of Ai Khanum in what is now Afghanistan and Philoteris in Egypt may have been separated by some 3,000 miles but they both boasted Greek gymsnasiums. Ai Khanum was also home to an Acropolis, a theatre and library – a direct consequence of Alexander's extraordinary conquests.

Alexander's incursion into India was brief and bloody, but its impact on the subcontinent's culture was significant. It inspired the anthropomorphic representation of the Buddha in Indian sculpture and the appearance of Greek mythological figures, including Herakles, in Buddhist literature.

It may even lie behind Indian astrologers' adoption of the signs of the zodiac.

It seems that Alexander's cultural impact may even have spread beyond the borders of his massive empire, perhaps seeping into China. The theorem of Pythagoras reached the Chinese within decades of Alexander's death, and it's thought that the terracotta army (see page 48) may have been influenced by Greek models.

But perhaps Alexander's most enduring cultural legacy was the fact that, for a thousand years, Greek became the 'lingua franca' of the near east. As a result, when the Christian New Testament was first recorded, it was written down in Greek, the very language that Alexander had himself spoken hundreds of years earlier.

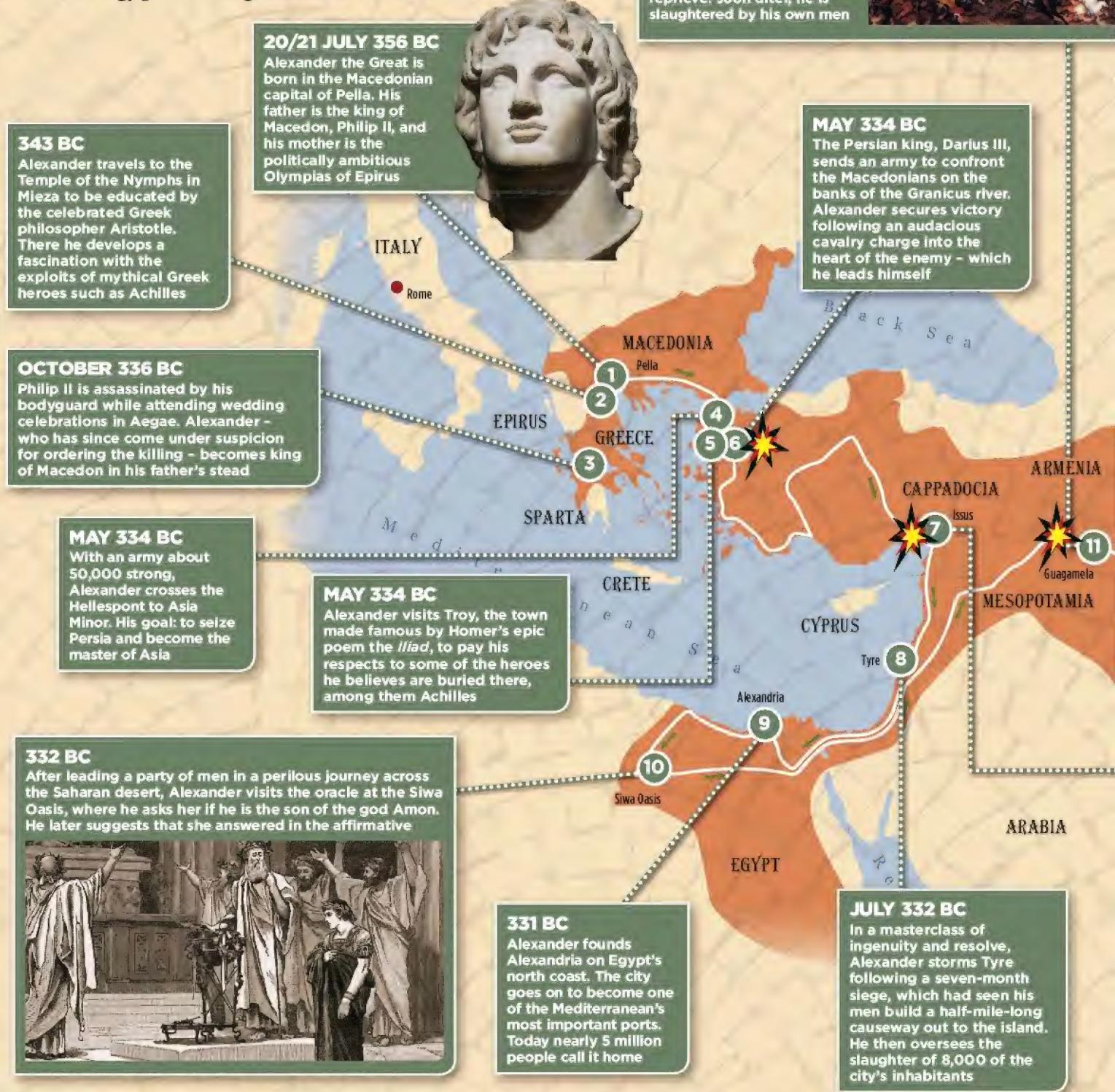


THE GREEK EFFECT

This c200 BC plate (left), found in Ai Khanum, shows the goddess Cybele, borrowed from the Greek tradition; Alexander's India campaign changed how the Buddha (above) was depicted

THE EMPIRE OF ALEXANDER THE GREAT

Mapping his all-conquering domination from Egypt, through Asia and on to India



**327 BC**

In another masterclass of improvisation, Alexander seizes Aornos, a seemingly impregnable stronghold blocking his entry into India. Alexander's solution is to seize the hill opposite and drive the enemy out of their encampment with his catapults

MAY 326 BC

The powerful Indian raja Porus confronts the Macedonians on the banks of the river Hydaspes. In an incredibly hard-fought battle, Alexander's phalanx gets the better of an Indian army that includes 200 elephants. Hydaspes is the last great battle of Alexander's campaign in the east - but it is also the bloodiest, pushing the Macedonian army to breaking point



ROUTE
DECISIVE BATTLES

**5 NOVEMBER 333 BC**

Darius attacks Alexander near Issus. The Persian army fares no better than at Granicus - a whirlwind Greek cavalry assault proves decisive and Darius flees the battlefield

**330 BC**

The Macedonian army descends on the Persian capital of Persepolis and, in an orgy of drink-fuelled violence, loots the city and burns its great palace to the ground



DID YOU KNOW?

As he conquered region after region, according to Plutarch, Alexander the Great founded 70 towns and cities, including at least 16 that he modestly named Alexandria

326 BC

Drenched by Indian monsoon rains and traumatised by the carnage at Hydaspes, Alexander's men decide they have had enough and mutiny. Eight years and 17,000 miles into his epic journey east, Alexander is forced to accept that his remarkable campaign of conquest is over

ALEXANDER LEGENDS

MAN & MYTH

That Alexander adored his horse, Bucephalus, and rode it throughout his great Asian campaign, is beyond doubt (Alexander was bereft when the horse died and named a city, Alexandria Bucephala, after it). What is up for debate is how man and horse were united in the first place. According to Plutarch, Bucephalus was so wild, Philip II turned down an offer to buy him, only to look on, astonished, as Alexander tamed it in seconds. True or not, Bucephalus has become one of the most famous horses in history.

If the legend of Bucephalus hints at Alexander's gentler side, the tale of the death of Bessus reveals a far darker aspect to his character. Bessus was a Persian governor who led resistance to Alexander in the summer of 329 BC, until he was betrayed by his own men. Alexander had Bessus tried and tortured; that much we can be sure of. But it's the manner of his execution that divides historians. Was he beheaded or crucified? Or, most grisly of all, was Plutarch correct when he reported that Alexander "had the tops of two straight trees bent down so that they met and part of Bessus's body was tied to each. Then each tree was let go."

The phrase 'cutting the Gordian knot' signifies a bold solution to a complicated problem. It derives, so the legend goes, from Alexander's conquest of the city of Gordium in Anatolia. There he was shown the chariot of the ancient founder of the city, Gordius, with its yoke secured to a pole by an intricate knot. Tradition had it that

it would be untied by the future ruler of Asia. But Alexander, ever the impetuous warrior, apparently sliced through it with his sword.

SOFT SPOT
Alexander treasured his horse Bucephalus and named a city after him



BATTLE OF ISSUS

Mosaic showing Alexander, atop Bucephalus (left), leading an attack directly at Darius III (right), sending the Persian king scuttling from the battlefield

DID YOU KNOW?

Alexander brought six phalanx battalions into Persia, each consisting of 1,500 men. Armed with light shields and 4- to 6-metre spears called sarissa, they contained the enemy until he sent in the cavalry

Cleopatra of Macedon, Philip was knifed to death by one of his own bodyguards.

For centuries historians have speculated whether Alexander ordered the assassination. More still have pointed the finger of blame at his mother, Olympias. What is certain is that, in no time at all, Olympias appears to have ordered the death of Philip's newborn son, and Alexander had had himself crowned king of Macedon aged 20.

If Macedon's generals believed their callow new king would show deference to the huge neighbour to the east, they were in for a rude awakening. Fired by a manic ambition to outdo his father, emulate his hero Achilles and plunder Asia's vast wealth, Alexander set about launching his own invasion of Persia.

He did just that in 334 BC when, reports the Greek historian Diodorus, Alexander crossed the Hellespont (the Dardanelles) separating Greece from Asia Minor at "the head of 60 fighting ships", before throwing his spear down

into the sand and symbolically receiving "Asia from the gods as a spear-won prize".

Alexander had every right to be confident.

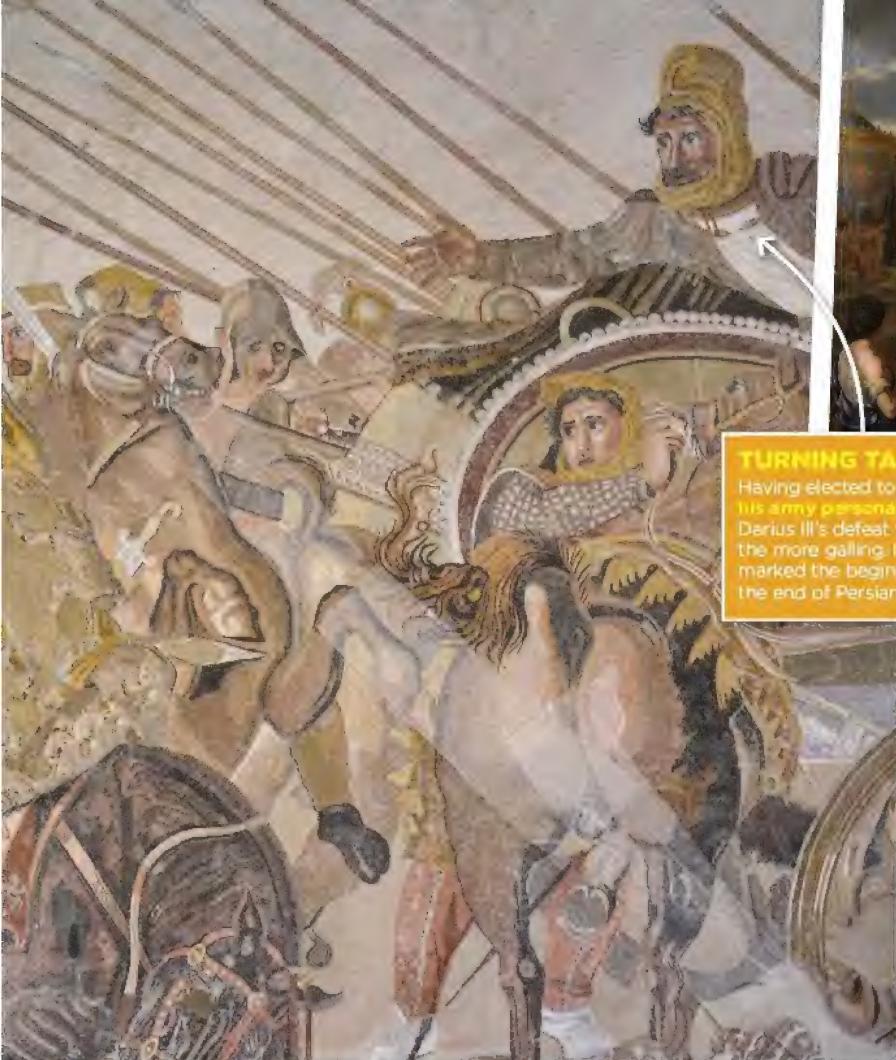
The 50,000 men that he led into Asia were well trained and used to winning. Alexander's most potent weapon was the phalanx, a body of highly disciplined fighters trained to advance in unison behind a barrage of 15-18ft spears. As the Persians would discover on numerous occasions over the coming years, confronting the phalanx was like taking on an enormous hedge of lethal steel.

It wasn't long before the phalanx was given an opportunity to display its martial prowess. For, soon after heading to the fallen walls of Troy to pay his respects to "tombs of the heroes Achilles, Ajax" (Diodorus), Alexander's army was confronted by a huge Persian force, headed by a Greek mercenary, on the banks of the river Granicus in north-western Anatolia.

With the Persians massed high up on the opposite bank of the river, Alexander's generals counselled caution – advice he completely ignored. Instead he launched a head-on attack across the river that was as bold as it was devastatingly effective. Soon his attackers were in among the Persians, forcing them to break and run. And the most extraordinary thing about

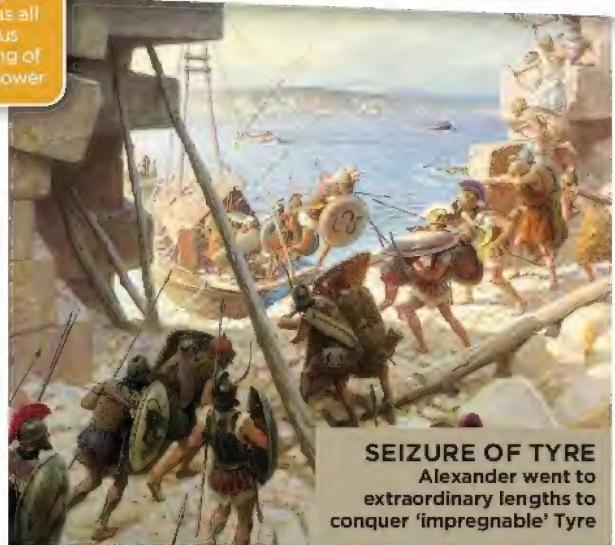


The defeated king's family kneel before Alexander. He would later marry Darius's daughter Stateira



TURNING TAIL

Having elected to lead his army personally, Darius III's defeat was all the more galling. Issus marked the beginning of the end of Persian power



SEIZURE OF TYRE

Alexander went to extraordinary lengths to conquer 'impregnable' Tyre

the victory? Alexander led the attack himself, losing his spear and getting struck on the helmet in the process.

By late 333 BC, Alexander's army had marched the length of the Anatolian peninsula. With the Macedonians now threatening the coastline of the eastern Mediterranean, deep into his empire, Darius felt compelled to confront Alexander once more in battle. This time, the Persian king would lead the army himself.

HELL-BENT ON PERSIA

Darius caught up with the Macedonians at Issus. With somewhere between 60,000 and 100,000 troops, Darius almost certainly enjoyed a substantial numerical advantage. But it was to no avail. At Granicus, Alexander had shown his immense personal bravery. At Issus, he revealed an almost superhuman ability to rapidly assess the relative strengths and weaknesses of the armies, identify an opportunity and exploit it ruthlessly. On seeing that the usually all-conquering phalanx was bogged down on rough terrain, he led a whirlwind cavalry attack directly at Darius himself. It was a battle-winning move. Many of Darius's bodyguard were cut down, and

the now panicking Persian king fled the battlefield in his chariot.

Defeat at Granicus had dealt the Persians a bloody nose. Issus, however, was a severe body blow. In the wake of the battle, Alexander captured Darius's wife and two of his daughters. Cyprus and Phoenicia now came under his control. The ports on the eastern Mediterranean were ripe for the picking.

Faced with this apocalyptic scenario, Darius felt he had no choice but to offer terms: all territory west of the river Euphrates and his daughter's hand in marriage. It was a generous offer and many leaders may have accepted it. Not Alexander. He was utterly hell-bent on destroying Darius, a fact reflected in his scathing reply: "Address your letters to the king of all Asia," he replied, "...do not run away... I will hunt you down."

If these words hint at Alexander's granite-like determination to bend everything in his path to his will, the fate of Tyre – an important supply base for the Persian army – confirms it. Surrounded by huge walls and half a mile out from the coast of what is now Lebanon, Tyre was considered impregnable. This made Alexander all the more determined to seize it. And

Defeat at Granicus had dealt the Persians a bloody nose. Issus, however, was a severe body blow

that's exactly what he did. In a plan that was so ambitious it bewildered even his own men, he built a causeway out to the island and, following a seven-month siege, successfully stormed the port.

The seizure of Tyre has been hailed as one of the greatest feats of conquest in history. But it had a dark side. According to the Roman historian Quintus Curtius Rufus, after taking the island, Alexander's men slaughtered 8,000 Tyrians and sold a further 30,000 into slavery. It was a brutal lesson to the watching world that it didn't pay to resist Alexander.

The people of Egypt certainly got the message. In fact, when the Macedonian army arrived in their homeland,



ROUND THREE
Darius is roundly
defeated by the
Macedonian fighting
force for the final time
at the battle of
Gaugamela, 331 BC

At Gaugamela, as at Issus,
Alexander was simply too
decisive and quick-witted
for his opponent

Egyptians declared Alexander pharaoh. Alexander's seizure of Egypt would have appealed to the love of history and art drilled into him by Aristotle, and – in a land that routinely hailed its leaders as gods – his growing obsession with his own divinity. Yet he would leave behind something far more tangible than his own growing megalomania – a magnificent port on Egypt's northern coast. The city of Alexandria was, according to Plutarch, one of more than 70 cities that the Macedonian leader founded across his empire, many named after himself. Eighty per cent of Egypt's imports and exports continue to flow through its harbour today.

DARIUS GOES DOWN

After leaving Egypt, Alexander drove his army back up the coast of the eastern Mediterranean, before crossing the Euphrates and heading deeper into Mesopotamia. He was now undoubtedly the most powerful man in Asia, yet he could not yet declare himself undisputed lord of Persia – not until he had delivered Darius a knock-out blow. He was to get his opportunity at a place called Gaugamela in modern Iraq.

It's possible that the army Darius brought to the battlefield on 1 October 331 BC numbered more than 100,000, perhaps double the size of the Macedonian force. He could also call upon the latest in military technology: chariots bearing fearsome scythes a metre in length.

If Alexander was in any way troubled by the size of the Persian army, he certainly didn't show it. Plutarch tells us that he rejected the suggestion to attack the Persians at night, giving the declaration:



NAMESAKE CITY
Alexandria, founded in 331 BC, became the cultural centre of the ancient world

DID YOU KNOW?

Alexander married at least three times: first to Roxana, captured in Bactria, then to Stateira II, daughter of Darius III, and Parysatis II, daughter of the Shah of Persia, both captured at Issus

"I will not steal my victory." Other reports suggest that he slept so well the night before the battle, his men had to wake him.

His confidence was justified. As at Issus, Alexander was simply too decisive and quick-witted for his opponent. The massive Persian army had the better of the early exchanges, and began to slowly encircle the Macedonians. Alexander's response was masterful. He tempted the Persian cavalry to attack his flank, opening up a small gap for his own cavalry to punch through at the heart of the enemy. The ruse worked to perfection. Darius, writes Plutarch, "forsook his chariot and his armour... and took to flight".

Gaugamela is widely described as one of the greatest victories in ancient history. With Darius defeated and soon dead (at the hands of his own men), it surely marks the high-water mark of Alexander's career. There would be more victories and more conquests, but from this point on his behaviour would often be marred by drunkenness, paranoia and megalomania.

That drunkenness was in full evidence when his army descended on the Persian capital of Persepolis to loot its vast wealth. By now, Alexander had developed "an inexcusable fondness for drink", records Rufus, even killing Cleitus, one of his most trusted generals, in a drunken quarrel. At least two more prominent generals would lose their lives as a result of Alexander's growing paranoia. In 330 BC, Philotas was executed for allegedly plotting against the king. More shocking still was that Alexander had Philotas's father, Parmenion (who had served him for years) murdered too, purely by association.



Q&A

PAUL CARTLEDGE

AG Leventis Professor of Greek Culture Emeritus, University of Cambridge, gives us his take on Alexander the Great

What made Alexander such a brilliant military leader?

He combined immense personal charisma and bravery (he often led his troops from the front). Plus he had a priceless ability to identify the key moment in a battle and act decisively to ensure he won that moment.

Where does he stand in the pantheon of great commanders?

Up there in Division 1, with Napoleon and Genghis Khan. He won the four key battles of his great campaign: at Granicus, Issus, Gaugamela and, for me the most impressive, Hydaspes. While Darius III of Persia commanded a motley crew of multi-ethnic forces, at Hydaspes Raja Porus led largely Indian ethnic forces fighting on their own terrain for their own terrain. And, of course, they had elephants!

What was Alexander's greatest failing as a leader?

One criticism is that he didn't invest enough time and energy in the peaceful administration of his diverse empire. One symptom is that, at his death in 323 BC, he had three wives but no male heir yet born. In addition, he was too impetuous, too prone to believe alleged conspiracies against his life and too trusting in subordinates who let him down.

Was he gay?

As he had sex with both males and females, he was what we'd call bisexual. He married three times and sired at least two sons, one legitimate (born to his first wife, Roxana, after his death). Possibly his closest and warmest personal relationship was with a man – his near-contemporary Hephaestion, a noble Macedonian who, like him, was taught by Aristotle.

What motivated Alexander to undertake his extraordinary campaign in the east?

It probably never occurred to him *not* to carry on where his father had been forced to leave off. Probably, too, his Greek-style education and his love of Homer's writings gave him the notion of trying to emulate his boyhood hero, Achilles (the mythical Trojan War was, after all, a battle between Greeks and Orientals).

Do you think that Alexander truly believed he was a god?

Without doubt he believed he was descended literally from more than one god, and he almost certainly demanded to be worshipped by his subjects as if he were himself a living god. Was he a megalomaniac? Yes, inevitably. No one but a megalomaniac could possibly have conceived, let alone pulled off, his greatest feats.

What was Alexander's greatest legacy?

To create indirectly what became the eastern half of the Roman empire, through which Greek high culture – both science and literature – was preserved and transmitted to us, via the Renaissance and the Enlightenment. That legacy includes Judaeo-Christian religious and moral culture, and aspects of Islamic scientific culture.



BATTLE BEASTS

Porus put elephants at the front of his attack, although several of the frightened animals turned and trampled his own men.

The resulting clash would end in yet another triumph for the Greeks, and the annexation of the Punjab. But victory, in what was the bloodiest battle in the entire campaign, came at a price. Alexander's men could take no more.

Since leaving Macedon, the Greeks had stormed impregnable strongholds, defeated mighty armies, almost died of thirst in the sun-baked Saharan desert and faced starvation as they crossed the vertiginous Hindu Kush. Despite these hardships, Alexander – through sheer force of personality and the intoxication of success – had been able to keep driving them on. Not anymore.

"So hard fought was the battle of Hydaspes it convinced the men that they should not advance any further into India," writes Plutarch. And so, with monsoon rains drenching them for days on end, the Macedonians mutinied.

Alexander was so enraged by his army's disobedience he is said to have laid prostrate in his tent for a day. But even he had to accept the inevitable. Eight years and 17,000 miles into his staggering journey, Alexander was forced to turn around and head for home. ☀

By the early 320s BC, Alexander's megalomania had manifested itself in a decree that his subjects prostrate themselves whenever they approached him. Callisthenes, Alexander's long-time personal historian, had the temerity to chide his king for this controversial practice. Soon after, Callisthenes would die from torture or disease in prison.

By now, writes Quintus Curtius Rufus, "most of his friends began to regard him as an enemy". But still Alexander retained the force of personality to

drive his men on east. And now that he had conquered Persia, he had a new objective: to reach the place where, he believed, the Earth ran out and ended in a mighty ocean.

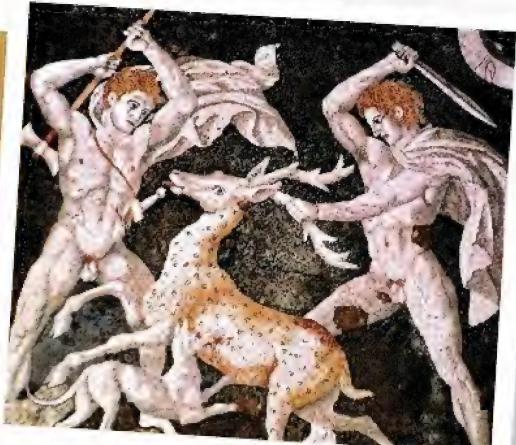
By spring 326 BC that quest had driven the army all the way to modern-day Pakistan. What Alexander's army discovered when it arrived at the banks of the river Hydaspes wasn't, however, the end of the Earth but a mighty army led by the powerful raja, Porus. Worse still, that army was massed around 200 elephants.

STEP TOO FAR
The Macedonians take on the Indian forces of Raja Porus and suffer large losses. With army morale at rock bottom, Alexander is forced to call a halt to his ever-expanding empire

GET HOOKED

BOOK

Paul Cartledge's *Alexander the Great: The Truth Behind the Myth* (Pan, 2013) is a thoroughly researched and entertaining telling of the story of Alexander



LOST LOVE
the childhood friend whose death hit him hard

AFTER HYDASPE

WHAT HAPPENED NEXT

Alexander's aim of leading his army even deeper into Asia might have come to an end when his men mutinied in 326 BC, but his journey didn't. He was, after all, in the Indian subcontinent, thousands of miles from home. Plutarch tells us that he was now more determined than ever to reach the great outer ocean at the end of the Earth, and so he led his army on an expedition down the Hydaspes river.

It was a journey that took him into the territory of the Malli people of the Punjab, and a close brush with death. While leading an attack on the Mallians, Alexander was struck by an arrow, before being pulled to safety by his troops who, writes Plutarch, "had to cut out the arrow that was wedged between his ribs".

The Macedonians' slow retreat west over the next two years appears to

have been marked by acrimony and death. Alexander lost thousands of soldiers to thirst and exhaustion while marching through the Gedrosia desert in Balochistan and his army grew ever more disillusioned with his increasing despotism and his practice of sending Greek troops home and replacing them with Persians.

The death of Hephaestion, one of his oldest and dearest friends – and perhaps a lover – in 324 BC, dealt a massive personal blow to Alexander. Arrian reports that he flung himself on the body of his friend and lay there crying all day.

Just a year later, Alexander followed his companion to the grave. Soon after returning to his new imperial capital of Babylon, he fell ill after a bout of heavy

drinking. After ten feverish days, he was dead. Did he succumb to malaria, an old war wound, an assassin's poison? We'll probably never know. But one thing's for sure: one of the most extraordinary stories in history was over.

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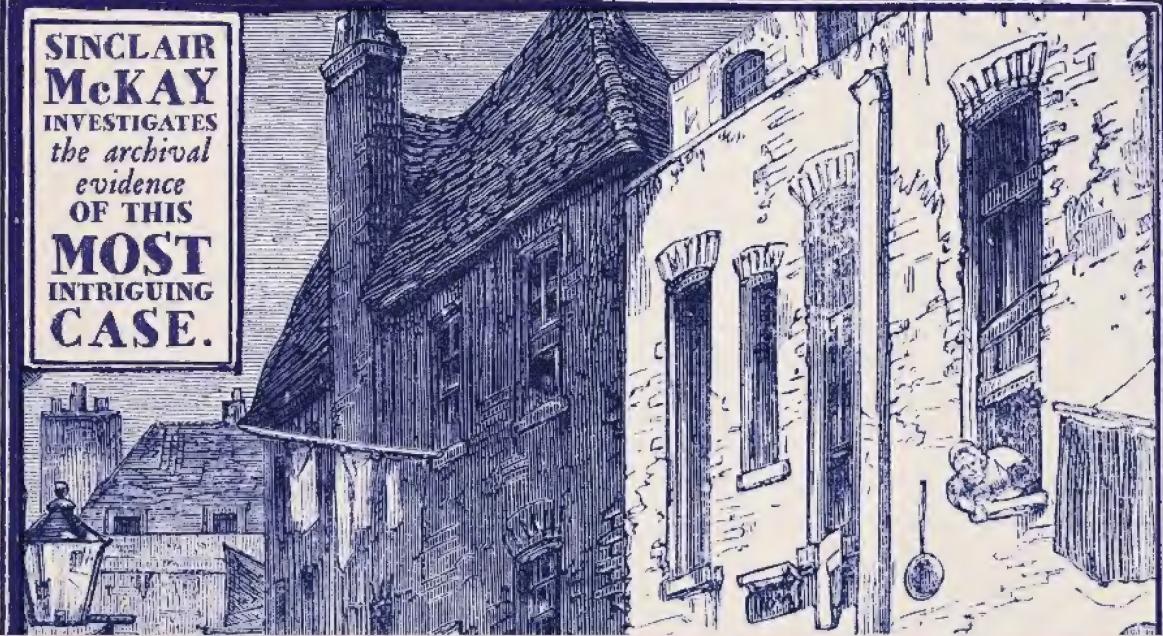


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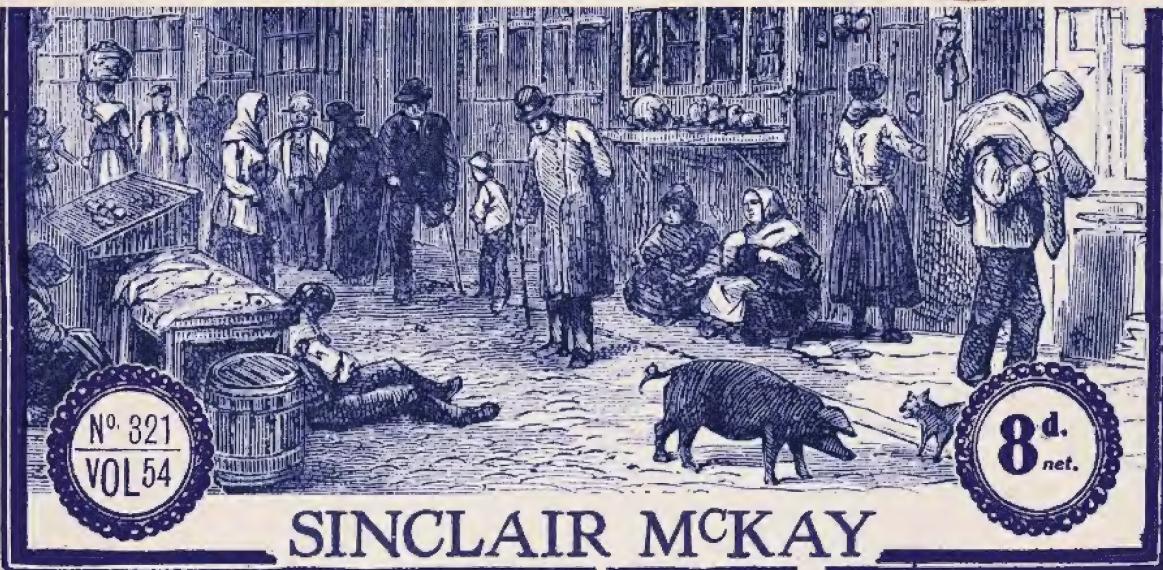
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UNSUNG HEROINE
As a young girl, Irena was taught always to help people, no matter the risk to her own life – it was a lesson that drove her to stand up against the Nazis

SENDER'S LIST

Pat Kinsella reveals the remarkable deeds of Irena Sendler, the Polish heroine who saved more than 2,000 Jewish children during World War II, for which she was arrested, tortured and sentenced to death



ON A MISSION

Jews were increasingly persecuted under the Nazi occupation (left); Irena (above) disguised herself as a nurse to smuggle ghetto children out

During the darkest days of World War II, the Nazis were intensifying their 'Final Solution', systematically transporting and murdering Poland's Jews at a rate of thousands per day. In the midst of the Warsaw Ghetto, one Catholic social worker risked her life by orchestrating an underground operation to save some of the most vulnerable.

Irena Sendler smuggled babies, toddlers and young children out of the ghetto, where the Jewish population was confined. She may have had a small frame and gentle smile, but they belied nerves of steel and a burning resistance to the abhorrent situation she saw unfolding in her country.

Irena also possessed prodigious powers of persuasion, which were vital in convincing complete strangers – families who had literally lost everything except each other – to give up their children for their own good. Those who agreed to suffer such a separation did so only because they knew their own death was imminent, and that their loved ones' infancy would be no defense against a Nazi killing machine hell bent on completing a genocide. The rescued children were deposited into adoptive homes outside the ghetto, or tucked away into convents and orphanages, and given new non-Jewish identities to shield them from further harm.

Despite the extreme extra level of danger it incurred, Irena maintained lists of those saved by the network she built, in which she coupled children's

real names with their assumed identities in glass jars buried beneath a tree. This secret cache could have brought death down upon the heads of everyone involved had it been discovered, but Irena was adamant that the notes needed to be kept so the children could eventually find out who they were and where they came from.

Details of approximately 2,500 souls were sealed in those jars – over twice as many lives as Oskar Schindler saved with his famous list – to be unearthed once the horror had passed. Yet the name Irena Sendler and knowledge of her extraordinary actions, and those of her network of helpers, remained buried for six decades after the end of war.

FIGHTING INJUSTICE

For Irena, born Irena Krzyżanowska, courage was a family trait. Her great-grandfather had led a rebellion against the tsars and her father, a physician, was killed by typhus contracted while providing free treatment to poor patients (including many Jews) who other doctors refused to touch. Irena was just seven when her father died in 1917, but she later recalled how she visited him five days before his death. He whispered a command to his young daughter: "If you see someone drowning, you must rescue him, even if you cannot swim."

She heeded these words throughout her life, during which she would witness some of the worst atrocities in human history, seeing firsthand horrors that many others – individuals, organisations, communities and countries – were

willing to ignore or participate in. At Warsaw University, Irena deliberately sat with Jewish students when they were segregated under the 'ghetto-bench system'. When she defaced her grade card to read 'Jew' out of solidarity and protest against their treatment, the authorities suspended her.

As a social worker in pre-war Warsaw, Irena (now married to Mieczysław Sendler) continued to fight injustice as Polish politics veered to the right and the country's Jewish population faced growing discrimination and destitution. Sendler altered the books to keep people from starving, and she found willing accomplices in her sympathetic supervisor Irena Schultz and manager Jan Dobraczyński.

The two Irenas would become lifelong friends and co-conspirators in ever bigger and more dangerous missions of >

GOOD FAMILY

Irena's parents Janina and Stanisław, who imbued her with the strong drive to do the right thing



IN THE GHETTO

The Nazis didn't invent ghettos, but they did weaponise the concept as a tool of ethnic annihilation. During World War II, more than 1,000 were established in Polish cities and annexed parts of the Soviet Union alone, but Warsaw had the biggest. After it was sealed on 15 November 1940, up to 450,000 people were crammed into an area the size of New York's Central Park.

Inside, daily life was overseen by the Judenräte (Nazi-appointed Jewish councils), with SS orders carried out by Jewish policemen, armed with batons. Schooling was outlawed, disease was rampant and food scarce. Children habitually risked potentially lethal punishments to go on begging and smuggling missions into Aryan areas beyond the walls.

Despite it all, underground groups organised cultural, recreational and educational activities, set up soup kitchens and libraries, and even ran a symphony orchestra.

But in the summer of 1942, the liquidisation began, with the transportation of tens of thousands of Jews on Holocaust trains to Treblinka II death camp. As 'Grossaktion Warsaw' gathered pace, and knowledge of the 'Final Solution' leaked out, remaining residents planned armed resistance. On 18 January 1943, when SS soldiers entered the ghetto for the first time in four months, an uprising erupted.

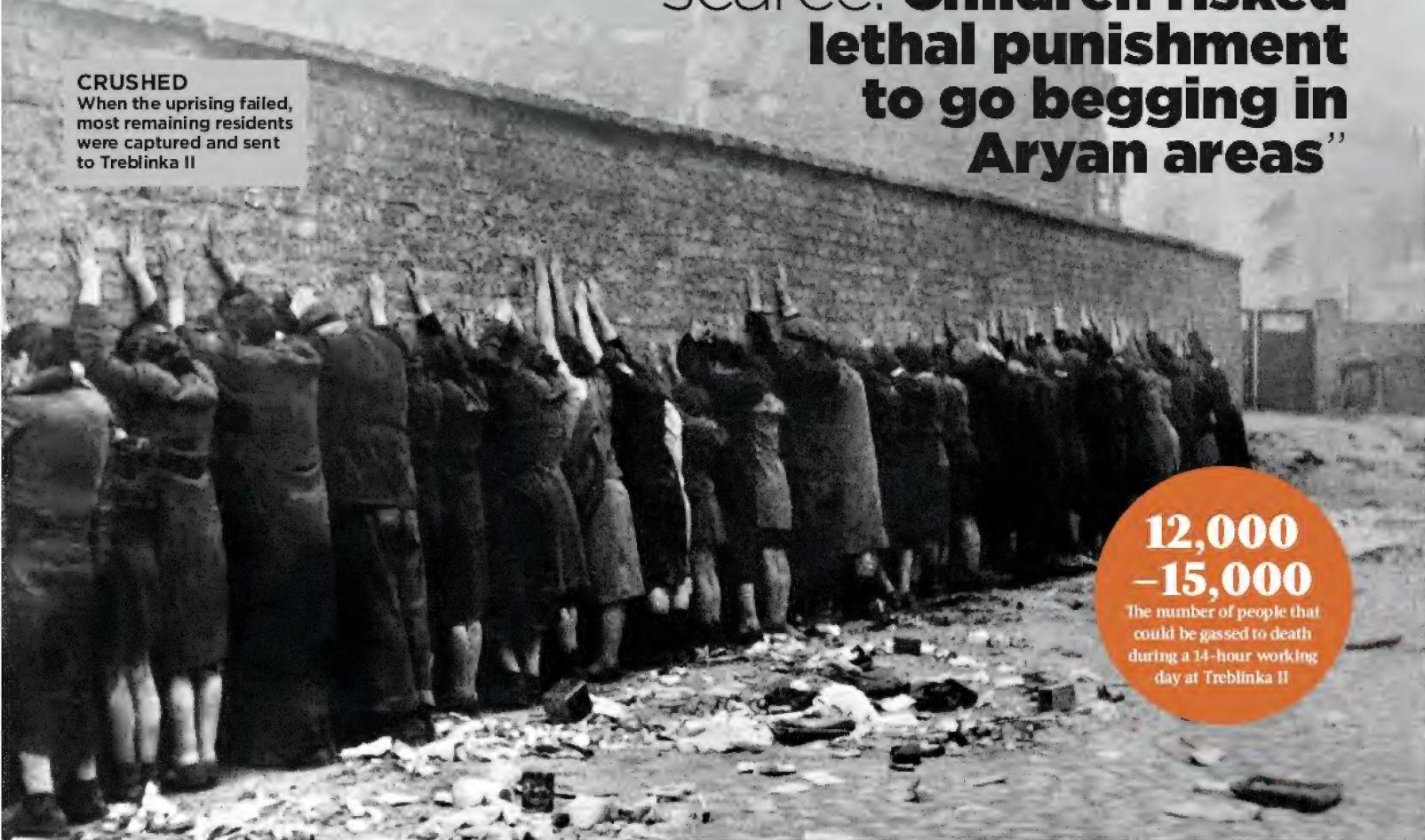
Underground fighters led by the ŻOB (Żydowska Organizacja Bojowa – Jewish Combat Organization) and ŻZW (Żydowski Związek Wojskowy – Jewish Military Union) fought well-armed SS soldiers with stolen and homemade guns and Molotov cocktails, and began executing collaborators.

Militarily, the uprising was doomed, but it helped restore some pride. However, on 19 April – on the eve of Passover – the Germans sent in thousands of troops. By 16 May, when Warsaw's Great Synagogue was destroyed, the ghetto had been completely levelled and 56,065 people had been killed or deported to death camps.

CRUSHED
When the uprising failed, most remaining residents were captured and sent to Treblinka II

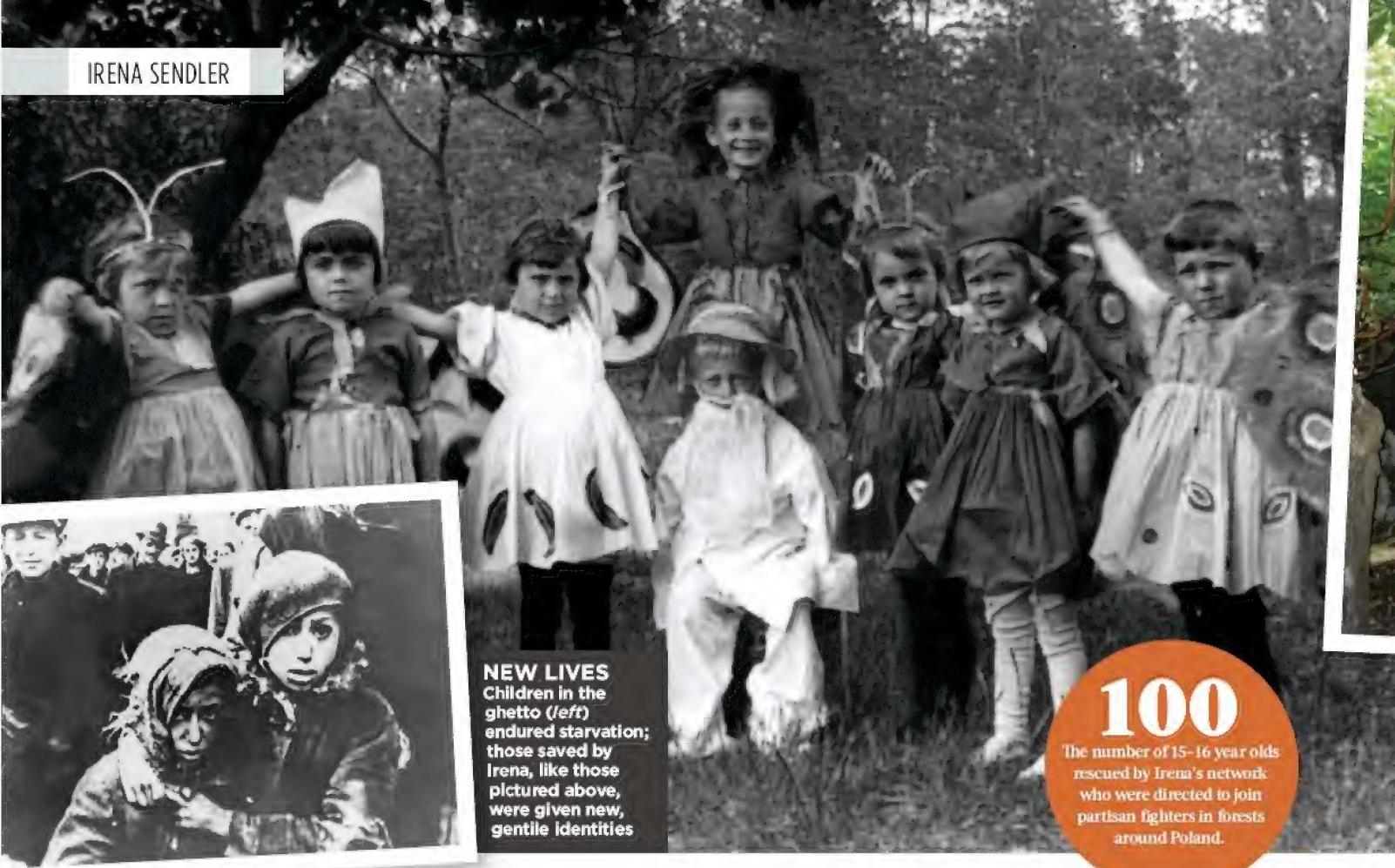


“Disease was rampant and food scarce. **Children risked lethal punishment to go begging in Aryan areas**”



**12,000
– 15,000**

The number of people that could be gassed to death during a 14-hour working day at Treblinka II



NEW LIVES
Children in the ghetto (left) endured starvation; those saved by Irena, like those pictured above, were given new, gentle identities

100

The number of 15–16 year olds rescued by Irena's network who were directed to join partisan fighters in forests around Poland.

“They were smuggled out through sewers and **on the back of trucks filled with piles of corpses**”

Now working with a network of sympathetic liaison officers, Irena was entirely unwilling to watch these children die on the streets. She began smuggling them out of the ghetto, beginning with an emaciated little girl called Beryl, aged five or six, whom she squirrelled out through a courthouse on the edge of the walls.

EXPOSED TO DANGER

Emboldened by the success of Beryl's liberation, and now convinced the Nazis were intent on wholesale murder, Irena adopted the code name 'Jolanta' and upscaled her operations. Exploiting the Germans' terror of typhus and tuberculosis, she managed to access the ghetto disguised as a nurse and visited families, when she would attempt the grim task of "talking them out of their children", as she starkly put it.

Once under Irena's wing, these infants were smuggled out. They went through sewers, in ambulances and the back of trucks filled with filthy bandages or piles of corpses – any places where the SS were too afraid to search – and housed wherever a spot could be found, which became increasingly difficult.

On occasion, Irena ended up with children in the flat she shared with her ailing mother, desperately trying to avoid attention from curtain-twitching neighbours who may then have reported suspicious activity.

Her colleagues sheltered children too, including Dobraczyński's assistant Jaga Piotrowska, who was excruciatingly aware of the danger she was exposing her daughter Hanna to. The jars of names, a horde of incriminating evidence, were buried beneath an apple tree in her garden.

Once Poland had been defeated and occupied by Nazi Germany, whereupon the Gestapo began issuing draconian decrees.

Jewish properties, bank accounts and businesses were seized first, and then their civil rights were wiped out. Synagogues were closed and people were forced to wear Star of David armbands to identify them as Jews (which invited violence and harassment from SS soldiers and members of the public). Jews would also be made to slave in labour gangs on projects that included the construction of the walls around what would become the Warsaw Ghetto.

Initially, the Irenas forged signatures and fiddled figures at work to divert funds where they were most needed. Then they began sourcing documents, including passports of dead Poles, that could be used to create new and life-saving identities for Jews.

By the end of 1940, however, Warsaw's entire 400,000-plus Jewish population had been 'quarantined' behind the barbed wire-topped walls of the ghetto, where conditions were horrendously crowded, disease ran rife and thousands starved or froze to death. Still more waif-like figures would arrive at the ghetto gates from elsewhere, among them unaccompanied minors.



ESCAPE PLAN

The tree beneath which the children's identities were buried (above); orphanage manager Sister Matylda Getter (top right); resistance fighter Zofia Kossak (right) who helped fund Irena's plan

Boys were harder to place than girls as they were physically marked as Jewish by circumcision, which made many adoptive families nervous. Yet despite the penalty for sheltering Jews outside the ghetto being death, many people continually provided help, such as Sister Matylda Getter, a nun who oversaw 20 orphanages and took in many of Irena's illegal evacuees.

Irena and her liaison officers (nine women and one man, some barely beyond childhood themselves) ran risks so horrendous that they're almost incomprehensible. One slip – an ill-timed cry from a terrified toddler, the slightest betrayal by a member of the brutalised public – would inevitably lead to the death of the child. For the courier, and potentially their entire family, it meant imprisonment, torture and execution.

This awful fate befell several of the network, which filled Irena with guilt, but also terror that her entire operation would be compromised if any details were extracted under torture. She constantly changed the routes out of the ghetto, finding new holes in the wall, and bribing workmen and members of the Jewish police to get children through the gates.

Her ever-changing operations quickly exhausted Irena's meagre means, but news of her actions had percolated out. In November 1942, she was contacted by Zofia Kossak – author, activist and founder of Żegota, the underground



HEROES OF THE HOLOCAUST

OSKAR SCHINDLER

German industrialist and Nazi Party member, who saved the lives of 1,200 Jewish workers in his factory.

GIORGIO PERLASCA

Italian businessman who posed as the Spanish consul-general to Hungary, and saved 5,218 Jews from deportation to death camps.

NICHOLAS WINTON

► British stockbroker (right) who evacuated 669 children (mostly Jewish) from Czechoslovakia just before WWII, transporting them through Nazi Germany to the UK. He was assisted in this by Doreen Warriner.



RAOUL WALLENBERG

Swedish diplomat credited with saving thousands of lives in Hungary by issuing protective passports and sheltering Jews in buildings designated as Swedish territory.



CORNELIA 'CORRIE' TEN BOOM

► Dutch watchmaker and charity worker (pictured right) who, with her family, hid hundreds of Jews from the Nazis.

JØRGEN AND ELSEBET KIELER

Danish doctor and his sister, who helped hundreds of Jews escape from Denmark to safety in Sweden.



DR JANUSZ KORCZAK

► Polish educator and children's author (left) who ran an orphanage in the Warsaw Ghetto. When the orphans were sent to Treblinka, he refused offers of sanctuary from Żegota (and others), choosing to accompany the children in death.

JAN KARSKI

Polish resistance fighter and spy who toured the ghetto with Irena, then disguised himself as an Estonian guard

to record the transportation of Jews to the camps, which he subsequently described to British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden and US president Roosevelt. Roosevelt asked more questions about the fate of the country's horses than the plight of Poland's Jews. No action was taken to destroy either the death camps or the train lines leading to them.

>

to convince petrified parents that they could only save their children by letting them go. Many realised the truth too late. She once witnessed a woman throwing a newborn baby over the three-metre wall of the ghetto to an unseen saviour on the other side. Such sights, and the fate of those she could not save, would haunt her for the rest of her life.

ARREST AND TORTURE

During the night on 20 October 1943, a Gestapo agent and ten SS soldiers barged into Irena's flat. Although she managed, desperately, to destroy or conceal evidence of recently rehoused children, she was arrested and taken to Szucha #25, the Gestapo headquarters and an infamous place of interrogation and torture. From there, people rarely resurfaced alive.

Unlike other activists, Sendler never carried a cyanide pill to take as a last resort. Now her head hung heavy with a wealth of knowledge that could

3,000
The approximate number of false documents created by Irena's network and given to Jewish families before she began smuggling children out of the ghetto.



AFTER THE WAR
Irena, pictured here in 1948, found it hard to forget the horrors that she'd seen

condemn so many people to death if she broke under the severe physical and psychological torture the Nazis were about to subject her to. But she didn't break. Not during the daily beatings meted out by her relentless interrogator, Herr Bach, who wanted to know about Żegota; not while under constant

threat of imminent death from a firing squad; and not as guns were fired indiscriminately by psychopathic guards through a hole in the wall of the cell she shared with seven other inmates in Pawiak prison.

One by one, the women around her were dragged out and executed, often within earshot of her cell. Still, Irena stuck to her story – she was a social worker, guilty of nothing more than compassion, and knew nothing about any secret organisations.

One morning, Irena was loaded onto a truck with ten or 15 other women and taken back to Szucha, where she expected to be executed. Each woman was called into a room, from where a pistol shot rang out. When the name of Irena Sendler was read out, however, she was directed through a different door, where an SS officer dismissed the guard and led her out into the street. The Untersturmführer (who had been bribed by Żegota) told her she was free to go. When she hesitated, he slapped her face.

Barely able to walk, Sendler stumbled into a nearby pharmacy, where a woman helped clean her up and supplied new, non-prison-coloured clothes. Somehow, she made it back to her flat, and the following day her name appeared on the daily red posters that went up around Warsaw, detailing those who had just been executed. For the rest of the war, Irena lived as a ghost. ☀

WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

The SS officer who Żegota bribed to facilitate Irena's escape from Szucha was discovered and executed. Once the Gestapo knew she was alive and free, Irena had to live as a fugitive, avoiding friends and family – even missing her mother's funeral. She moved constantly, even temporarily living at the zoo. By this time – February 1944 – the ghetto had been destroyed and Poland's Jewish population decimated. There were no children left to save, but she continued to support infants that she'd hidden.

When the war finally ended, Irena and Jaga Piotrowska unearthed the jars beneath the apple tree. Some had smashed, ruining the lists, but most were legible. The parents were almost all dead, but Irena hoped to at least reunite children with their real identities. In post-war Poland's shattered society, however, where 95 per cent of Warsaw's population was comprised of displaced people, this was almost impossible. Within two years, Irena had a child of her own, and she handed the lists over to the Central Committee for Polish Jews. It's unknown how many children ever learned their true history.

After 1945, Poland became communist and was soon controlled completely by Stalin's Soviet Union, which suppressed stories of individual wartime heroics and persecuted many involved, including Irena, because of their connections with Polish nationalists.

Irena was recognised by Yad Vashem as one of the Righteous Among the Nations in 1965, and given honorary citizenship of Israel in 1991, but her deeds remained unrecognised in the wider world until 1999, when three schoolgirls from Kansas chanced upon her story during a history project and wrote a play about it. From this unlikely spark, word spread like contagion, leading to an audience with the Pope and the receipt of the Order of the White Eagle (Poland's highest civilian honour) and the Polish-American Jan Karski Award for Courage and Heart in 2003. She was twice nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, in 2007 and 2008.

Irena Sendler died on 12 May 2008, aged 98.



LATE HONOURS

Irena twice earned nominations for the Nobel Peace Prize for her heroism

GET HOOKED

EXPERIENCE

Go on a walking tour of the site where the Warsaw Ghetto stood; or visit Szucha (now the Mausoleum of Struggle and Martyrdom), Pawiak prison and Treblinka death camp.

READ

Life in a Jar: The Irena Sendler Project by Jack Mayer (Long Trail Press, 2005) explores Sendler's deeds, and how three Kansas schoolgirls reignited awareness of her heroism.



Dr Saunders strikes back

Psychiatrist suffers stroke, then analyses symptoms to help others

Dr Tony Saunders always looked after his health, so it seemed doubly unfair when he collapsed with a major stroke in the gym.

Tony's family were worried that he could die, as stroke takes a life every 13 minutes in the UK. And it's the leading cause of severe adult disability.

Fortunately, with excellent treatment, Tony eventually returned to work.

But Tony noticed that discussing his stroke made him anxious – he even started stuttering.

As a psychiatrist, he identified this as post-traumatic stress disorder. He then realised that, on top of his medical training, he now had valuable first-hand experience of stroke.

So Tony struck back by overcoming his anxiety, and giving talks to medical students. As a result,

a new generation of doctors are supporting their patients with powerful new techniques.

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infantryman



TERRACOTTA WARRIORS

As the fragile Chinese soldiers return to Britain for the first time in a decade, **Alice Barnes-Brown** finds out what we can expect from the exciting exhibition at World Museum, Liverpool

Somewhere beneath the beautiful mountains of Shaanxi Province, in central China, stand thousands of imposing (albeit very fragile) warrior statues, made purely of terracotta. For more than 2,000 years, they have been keeping watch, silently guarding the tomb of their master. Some have picked up a few war wounds over time, but the army remains extraordinarily well preserved.

Constructed in their thousands, these clay figures were intended to protect the first emperor of unified China, Qin Shi Huang, in the eternal afterlife. When he died in 210 BC, he was buried in a massive subterranean complex, the largest burial site on Earth. When built, this forbidden palace and city was shrouded in secrecy, so that only legends of the Emperor's tomb and his terracotta army survived the ages, as nature took its course and reclaimed the site.

That was until 1974. As a group of peasant farmers were digging a well, their shovels struck gold – or rather, terracotta. They discovered the head of a battle-ready warrior and some arrowheads. The farmers immediately reported their crucial find to the authorities. Archaeologists were dispatched to the site and set to work rebuilding these unique figurines.

In the years since the discovery, some of the warriors have travelled the world and delighted crowds. In 2018, ten figures, each totally unlike the other, go on display in Liverpool. The blockbuster exhibition *China's First Emperor and the Terracotta Warriors* at the World Museum will be the first time in a decade that the warriors have been to Britain. Visitors can walk through this period in ancient Chinese history, guided by the artefacts and a series of atmospheric audio-visual displays.

HORSE POWER

"We just want to immerse [visitors] in the sights and sounds of ancient China," says Fiona Philpott, Director of Exhibitions at National Museums Liverpool. A short video will help people explore the landscape of China, with its dramatic mountain ranges and river valleys. "At one point, cherry blossom will appear to fall off the trees, accompanied by their scent," adds Philpott. It is this verdant and varied landscape that helped China to flourish, but before the first emperor came to power, the land was in a state of disarray.

"Ancient China was made up of 148 different states, all trying to assert their own power," explains Philpott. As time

DID YOU KNOW?

Around 2,000 warriors – all found in pieces – have been excavated. Experts estimate that Qin Shi Huang was buried with as many as 8,000 figures

went on, the larger states, such as the Qin, overpowered the smaller ones through warfare, political alliances and bribery. At China's northernmost frontiers, the Qin state was able to build a power base by trading with nomadic tribes across the border. These travelling hordes had one item, in particular, that proved incredibly useful and worth its weight in gold: horses.

They transported goods and people over long distances and, crucially, they were a valuable weapon in war. Horses helped the Qin armies dominate neighbouring states during the second century BC. "The first section of our exhibition shows how the Qin state gradually rises in power and prosperity," says Philpott. The exhibition will demonstrate how horses were the key to power, and features items such as gold harness fittings and objects found in tombs.

It was during this crusading period that the first Emperor Qin Shi Huang was born in 259 BC. He became King of the Qin state, on the death of his father, when he was 13. He spent years eliminating his rivals and conquering the individual kingdoms one by one, before Qin Shi Huang declared himself Emperor of a unified China and assumed full control of the military and government. Having established the Qin dynasty, he was poised to embark on a sweeping programme of reforms, which would transform his kingdom forever.

FORWARD THINKING

A man that could be described as ahead of his time, Qin Shi Huang abolished the feudal system in China and set about promoting a meritocracy within the government ranks. Recognising the need for peoples across the Empire to be able to trade and communicate, he introduced a system of standardised weights, measures and currency. Philpott asserts just how thorough his measures were – he even "standardised the wheel gauge of chariots, so they could run along any road".

Inside the second section of the exhibition space, some of these weights and measures introduced by Qin Shi Huang are on display. These particular objects were used to measure liquids and food. The cases will also boast coins from the era to demonstrate how the Emperor's economic policies had widespread effects for the Chinese population at large. As a glimpse of the things to come, a terracotta warrior will watch over these items at the entrance to this part of the exhibition.

QIN SHI HUANG

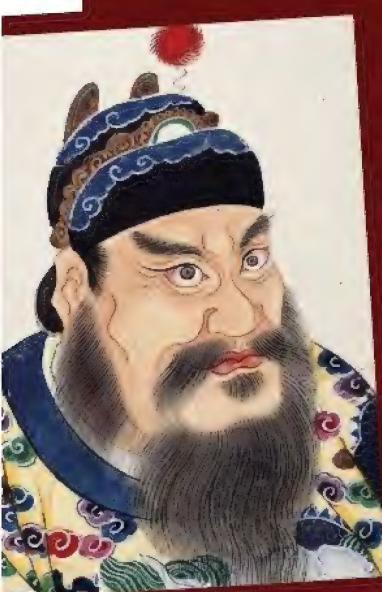
China's first emperor was a formidable man, with a fondness for grandeur. Born to a concubine and the king of the Qin state, his ambitious mother secured Qin Shi Huang's place on the throne, despite the fact he was not the named successor. Becoming king at 13, he inherited a land that was already powerful, though much of China viewed the Qin state to be full of barbarians.

Proving that barbarians were capable of anything, Qin Shi Huang conquered a number of China's smaller states, upgraded his title to 'First Sovereign Emperor' and claimed his empire would last "10,000 generations".

As well as widespread economic and political reforms, he constructed a

vast infrastructure the likes of which China had never seen. He even began work on a monolithic wall to keep his enemies out, which became the foundation for the Great Wall of China.

Exploring the distant regions of his Empire was integral to his reign – not only to keep his subjects in check, but to fuel his passion for all things magic. He searched high and low for a so-called 'elixir of immortality' so that he would be able to rule forever. Somewhat ironically, it may have been his quest for eternal life that eventually condemned him to death. In 210 BC, Qin Shi Huang died aged 49, potentially from drinking mercury – a substance that he may have taken to prolong his life.



MISUNDERSTOOD?
Qin Shi Huang was later seen as a tyrant, who obsessed over assassination attempts

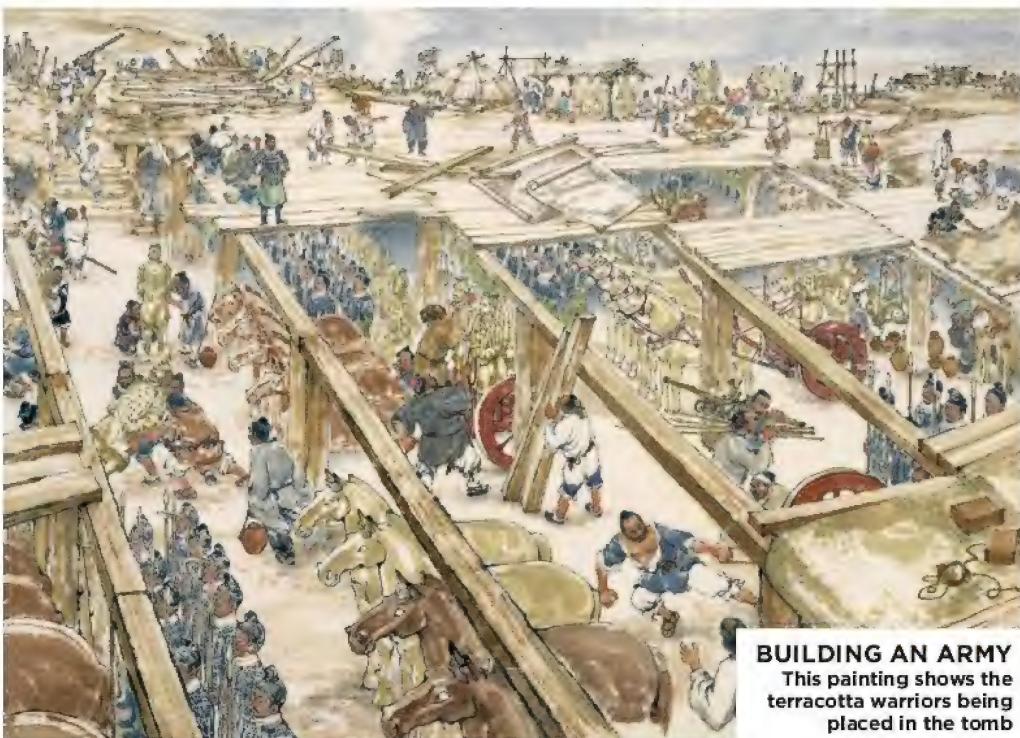


"PUTTING THE WARRIOR BACK TOGETHER IS LIKE A 3D JIGSAW PUZZLE"

FIONA PHILPOTT, DIRECTOR OF EXHIBITIONS AT LIVERPOOL MUSEUMS

INVADERS

ABOVE: Tourists flock to see the warriors at their home in Shaanxi Province, China
RIGHT: The exhibition will feature this warrior wearing a short, armoured tunic, which would have given maximum movement in battle



BUILDING AN ARMY
This painting shows the terracotta warriors being placed in the tomb



TREASURES OF THE EXHIBITION

Stepping through the decorated doors of the exhibition, visitors will find a host of treasures from China's early history. As well as spectacular, full-sized warriors, there will be intricate burial goods and gilded items – an insider's peek into the exclusive, rich world of China's first ruling dynasties...



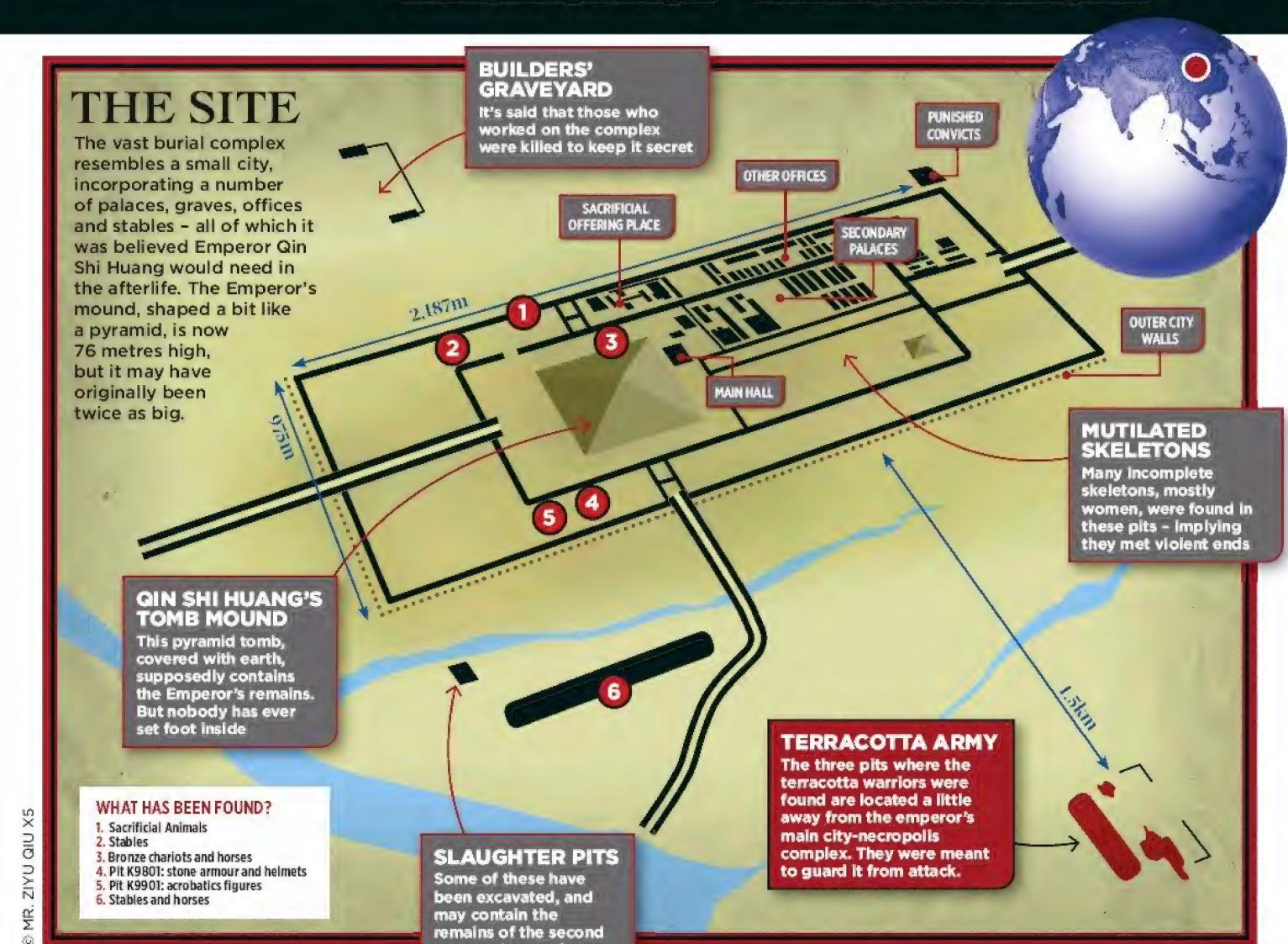
BACK ON THE HORSE
The terracotta tradition continued into the Han era, shown by this cavalryman



GOLDEN DUCK
This gold belt buckle from the fifth century BC is decorated with a mandarin duck, often used in Chinese symbolism

THE SITE

The vast burial complex resembles a small city, incorporating a number of palaces, graves, offices and stables – all of which it was believed Emperor Qin Shi Huang would need in the afterlife. The Emperor's mound, shaped a bit like a pyramid, is now 76 metres high, but it may have originally been twice as big.



WHAT HAS BEEN FOUND?

1. Sacrificial Animals
2. Stables
3. Bronze chariots and horses
4. Pit K9801: stone armour and helmets
5. Pit K9901: acrobatics figures
6. Stables and horses

**BELL RINGERS**

This bronze bell was made for Qin Shi Huang's musical-instrument collection

**ANIMAL KINGDOM**

The gold and turquoise chariot fitting, above, shows how horses were valued. To its right is a handle, with an animal face design

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Roughly 600 pits have been found at Qin Shi Huang's burial site, each one containing treasures that tell us about life in Ancient China.

Death and the afterlife was an important part of Chinese tradition, and Qin Shi Huang wanted his striding achievements and prowess as ruler to be remembered by everyone. So, as soon as he came to the throne, he commissioned a large burial site. His plans only grew more grand when he became Emperor, and he eventually designed himself a city-sized necropolis to lie in for eternity. Archaeologists have found thousands of warrior figures, plus terracotta horses and chariots. There's a complicated network of hallways, buildings, pits, traps and even an underground park, reminiscent of the vast booby-trapped tombs of movie legend.

The warriors showcased in the exhibition, plus the thousands more still in China, were there to guard Qin Shi Huang's body for all eternity, and for him to take soldiers into the afterlife. The displays will show how each one was unique, what their weapons were like, and how they would originally have looked – brightly painted, with detailed facial expressions. To bring this to life, Philpott and the team are working with Liverpool-based company, Draw & Code, to produce audio visual displays, showing magnified details of "things you don't often notice with the naked eye" – such as remains of pigments and dyes.

DEATH OF A KING

When Qin Shi Huang died at the age of 49, he left an enormous power vacuum. Panicked, the prime minister and other

top confidants tricked Qin Shi Huang's eldest (and most threatening) son into committing suicide, and placed his younger, more pliable son on the throne. Yet this proved to be a mistake, as the entire Qin Dynasty was soon destroyed by a commoner's revolt and army coup, led by a military general named Liu Bang. From the humblest of origins, he became Emperor of China, ushering in the Han era, which proved a much more stable and long-lasting dynasty than the Qin period.

Building on the successes of Qin Shi Huang, and learning from its failures, the Han rulers conquered vast expanses of land in the desert areas of Central Asia. Lasting 400 years, it is now considered to be one of China's golden ages. The third part of the exhibition explores the legacy of the Qin dynasty in the Han era, and briefly touches on how Han practices have continued into the modern day. For instance, though the rich and famous had always been buried

with sumptuous grave goods, modest and everyday items started finding their way into funerary chambers across the land. Philpott claims these are of huge value, as they "give us an idea of what everyday life was like".

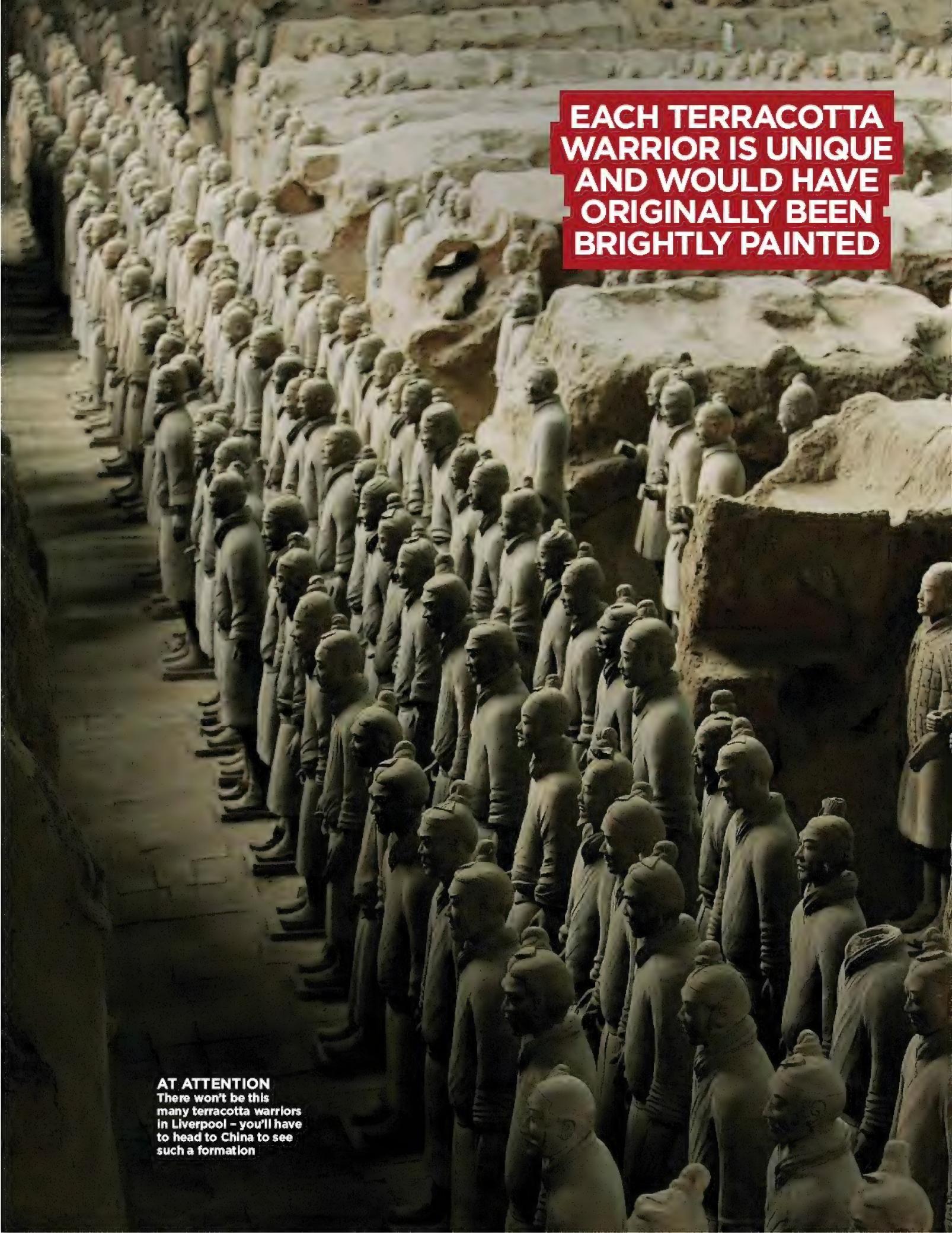
So as well as 25 more warrior figurines (which, at around half-a-metre high, are smaller than the Qin ones, but still bear their influence), and a dramatic Han tomb doorway made entirely of stone, visitors to the exhibition can see objects that give us a taste of how people really lived. There will be candlesticks, and a water clock the deceased could have used to tell the time in their next life. Philpott notes how this tradition has continued into modern-day China. "These days, you can get paper models of iPhones that you can put on your deceased relative's grave". Presumably, there's WiFi in the afterlife.

LOST TOMB

When visitors exit the hall, they will come across something truly magical – a view of what the Emperor's mighty mausoleum could look like underneath the ominous mound. To this day, no-one has dared set foot in there, so the team have used historical records to form an impression of what Qin Shi Huang's final resting place could look like.

Sima Qian, historian of the early Han period, described the tomb:

**"QIN SHI HUANG
DESIGNED HIMSELF
A CITY-SIZED
NECROPOLIS TO LIE
IN FOR ETERNITY"**



EACH TERRACOTTA
WARRIOR IS UNIQUE
AND WOULD HAVE
ORIGINALLY BEEN
BRIGHTLY PAINTED

AT ATTENTION

There won't be this
many terracotta warriors
in Liverpool – you'll have
to head to China to see
such a formation

“Mercury was used to simulate the hundred rivers, the Yangtze and the Yellow River, and the great sea, and set to flow mechanically. Above were representations of the heavenly constellations; below, the features of the land.”

Philpott explains that to recreate this magnificent site, there's a “touch of theatre” involved. Visitors will have to wait and see to find out exactly how that's done, but theatrical trickery is what makes this exhibition really stand out from all the other occasions the terracotta warriors have been on display around the world. The World Museum team are excited to show off the warriors in their full glory, aided by the videos and graphic panels, which add a touch of slick modernity. “I think the audio-visual elements within the gallery are going to

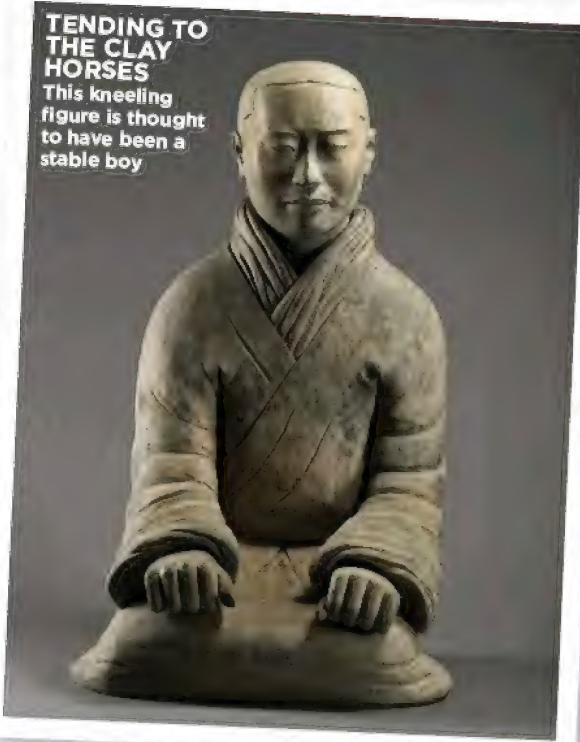
be unexpected, but they will be quite magical”, states Philpott.

“When you visit the site in China, you don't get that close to the warriors. In Liverpool, though there's only a limited number, you'll be much closer to them,” she adds. All that separates visitors from these ancient and fragile objects is a glass case, so it is possible to get a really good look at them, coming within mere inches of the stern faces of the warriors. Plus, 70 per cent of the contents of the exhibition have never been in Britain.

HIGH HOPES

That Liverpool was selected to host these Chinese treasures is of great significance for the museum, Britain, and international relations as a whole. “The fact it's not London is huge,” explains Philpott. “It's rare for

TENDING TO THE CLAY HORSES
This kneeling figure is thought to have been a stable boy



THE PAINTED WARRIORS

Though the warriors are now known for their distinctive grey-brown tinge, they were once ablaze with vivid colour. Each warrior was originally painted using mineral-based pigments, such as deep blue and the famous ‘Han Purple’. Kept in a cool, damp underground environment, the paint partially survived. But within 15 seconds of being exposed to air, the paint flakes off, and in four minutes it can all be gone.

Preserving the original pigments is no mean feat. When new warriors are unearthed, they are kept moist, then coated with special plastic to keep the paint on. For the unfortunate warriors who have gone a bit pale, it's trickier. If a few specks of colour remain, historians can piece together what the warriors may once have looked like, but it's a painstaking process.

Visitors to the Liverpool exhibition will be able to see a warrior with some colour still on his face, and the museum will show how he might have looked in his full, ancient glory.

TRUE COLOURS
An exhibition in Lisbon showed colourful recreations of the warriors

a museum in the regions to be able to stage an exhibition like this.”

She believes the fruits of her hard work, and that of the team's, will prove to be an extremely important event for the government, as it is a great way to foster co-operation with global powerhouse China. Liverpool is also home to the oldest Chinese community in Europe, and the exhibition demonstrates the city's strong connection with the country. “We've had a number of meetings with the Chinese community, and they're going to be involved in the delivery of the exhibition,” says Philpott.

Ultimately, it's hoped the exhibition will allow visitors the chance to become familiar with a culture they may not know, as well as offering an unmissable opportunity to see the warriors in the flesh. “It's a great way of breaking down barriers”, enthuses Philpott. “China has a rich history, and it demonstrates that we have a lot of things in our past that we share”.

GET HOOKED

EXHIBITION

China's First Emperor and the Terracotta Warriors runs from 9 February to 28 October 2018 at the World Museum, Liverpool www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/terracottawarriors

VISIT

The warriors' home in China is at the Museum of Qin Shi Huang's Mausoleum, around 40 minutes outside the city of Xi An, in central China.

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FEBRUARY 2018

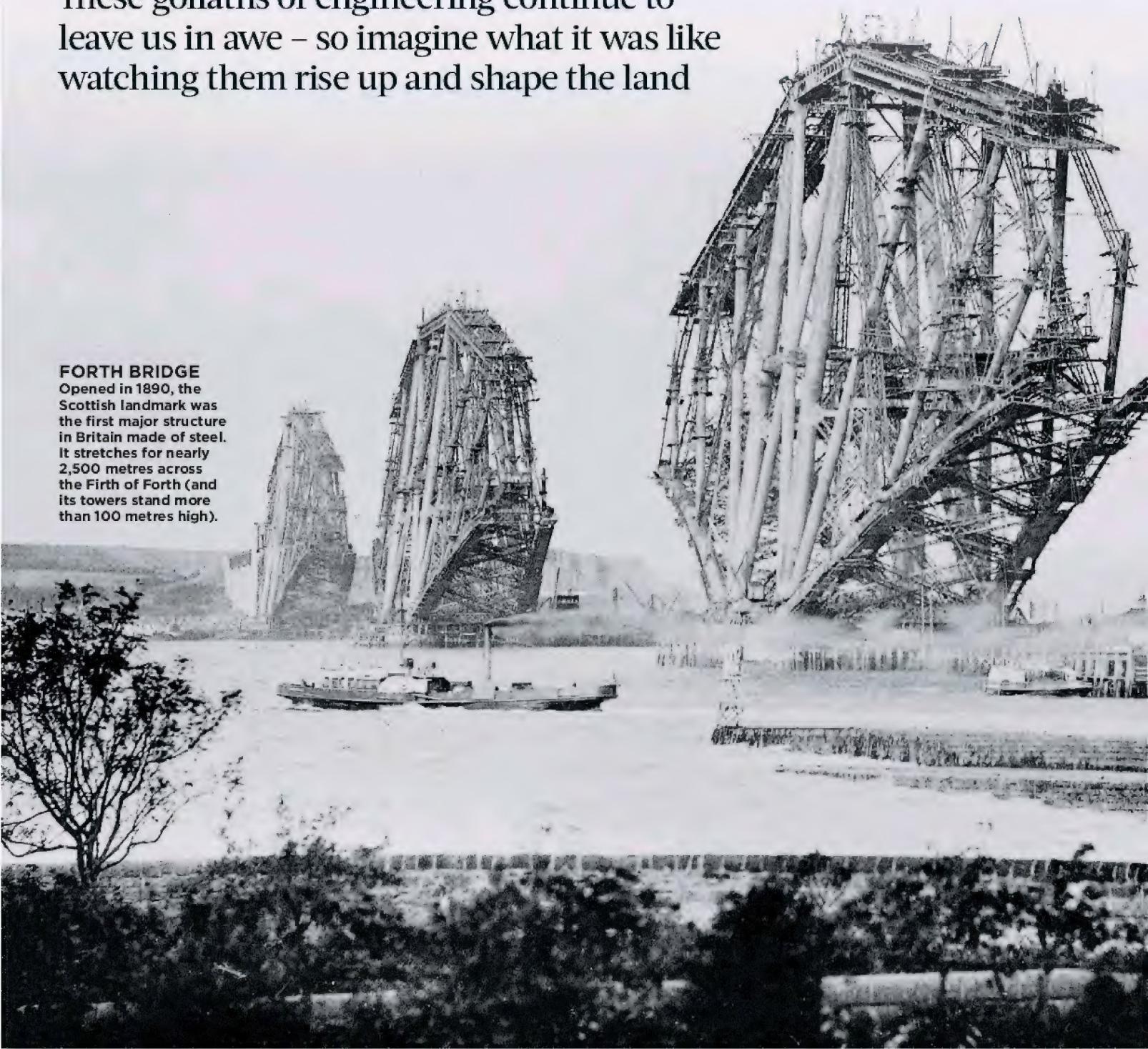
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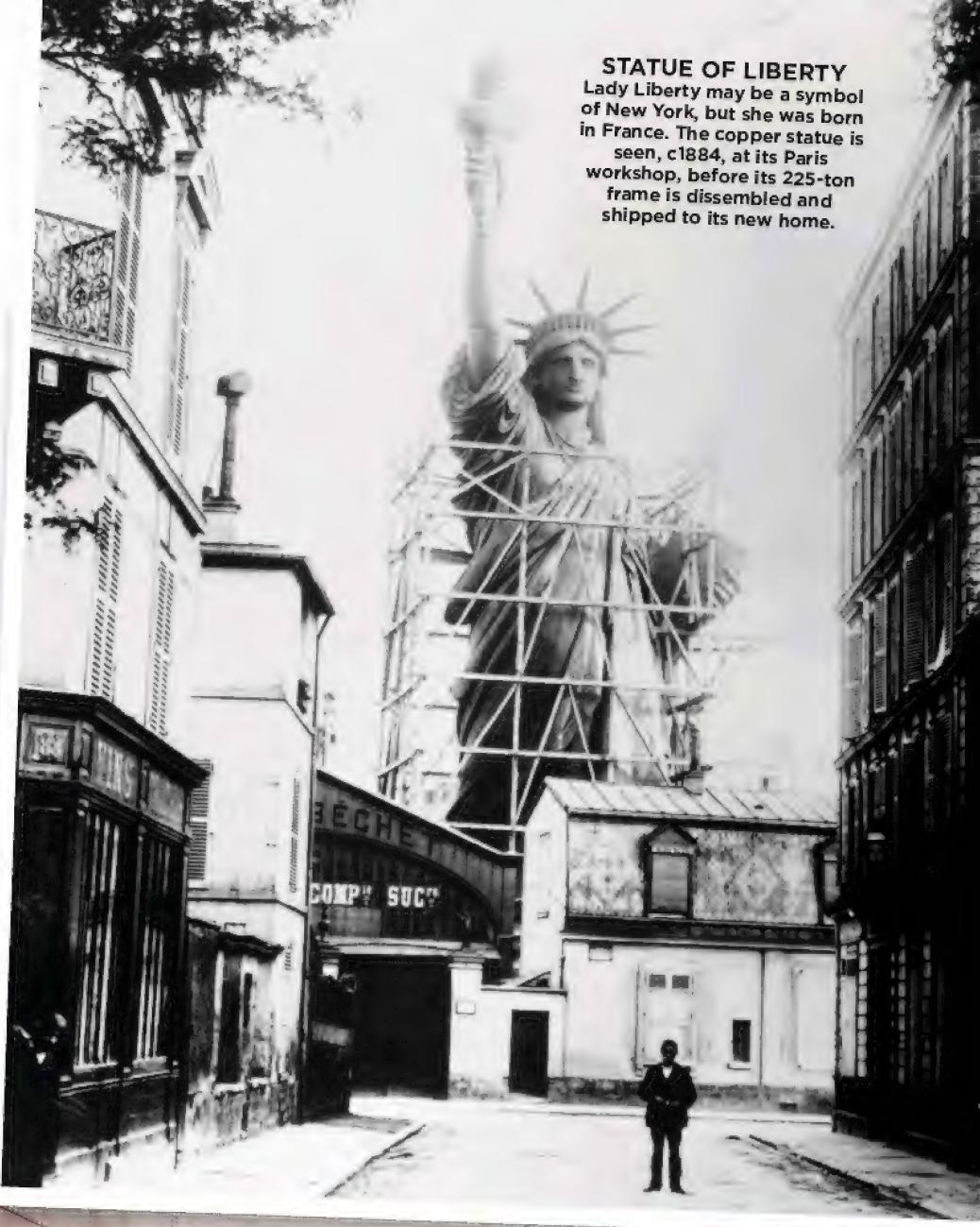
UNDER CONSTRUCTION

These goliaths of engineering continue to leave us in awe – so imagine what it was like watching them rise up and shape the land

FORTH BRIDGE

Opened in 1890, the Scottish landmark was the first major structure in Britain made of steel. It stretches for nearly 2,500 metres across the Firth of Forth (and its towers stand more than 100 metres high).





ROTHERHITHE TUNNEL

It took four years – and the uprooting of 3,000 London residents – to bore out Sir Maurice Fitzmaurice's tunnel under the Thames.

STATUE OF LIBERTY
Lady Liberty may be a symbol of New York, but she was born in France. The copper statue is seen, c1884, at its Paris workshop, before its 225-ton frame is disassembled and shipped to its new home.

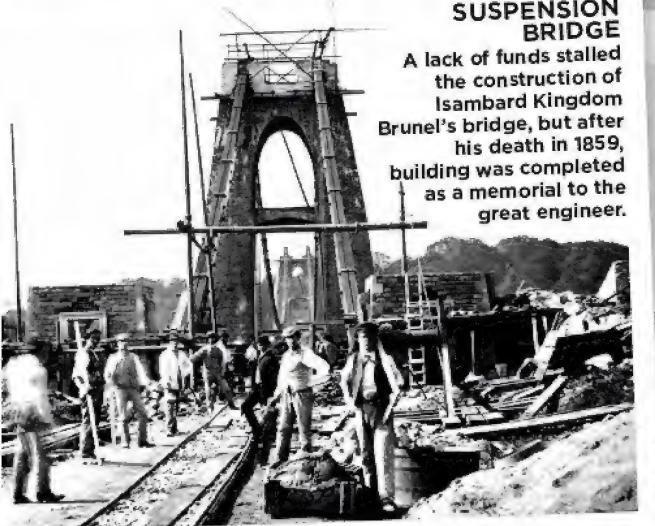
PANAMA CANAL

Uniting the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans required one of history's most colossal engineering projects. These lock gates alone had to be two metres thick. The Panama Canal also came at a tragic cost in human life – at least 25,000 died, or around 500 per mile.



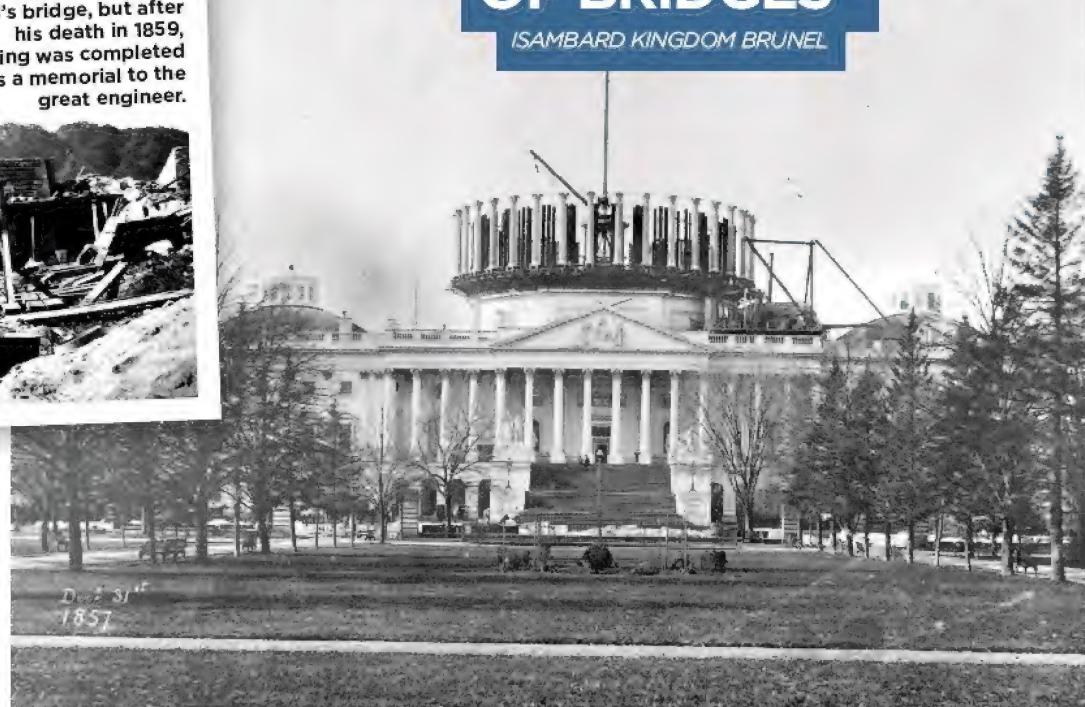
CLIFTON SUSPENSION BRIDGE

A lack of funds stalled the construction of Isambard Kingdom Brunel's bridge, but after his death in 1859, building was completed as a memorial to the great engineer.



“I AM OPPOSED TO RULES OR CONDITIONS... IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGES”

ISAMBARD KINGDOM BRUNEL



CAPITOL BUILDING

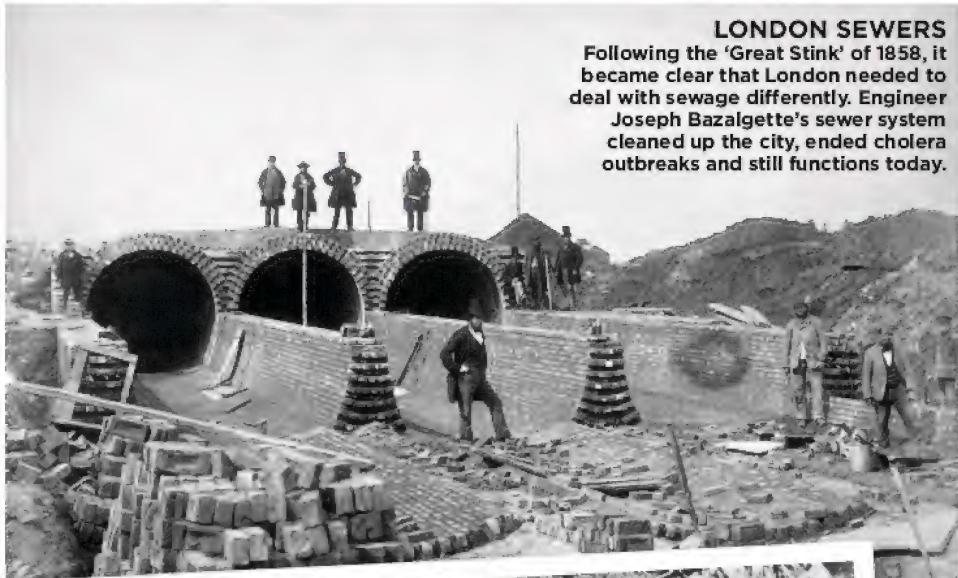
Although the home of the US Congress in Washington DC was finished in 1800, a new cast-iron dome was added, over 11 years, in the mid-19th century. It cost over \$1 million (a little under \$250 million today).

**EIFFEL TOWER**

Gustave Eiffel's designs for his world-famous tower, built for the 1889 World's Fair, had been met with fierce criticism. A petition labelled it a "giddy, ridiculous tower dominating Paris like a gigantic black smokestack".

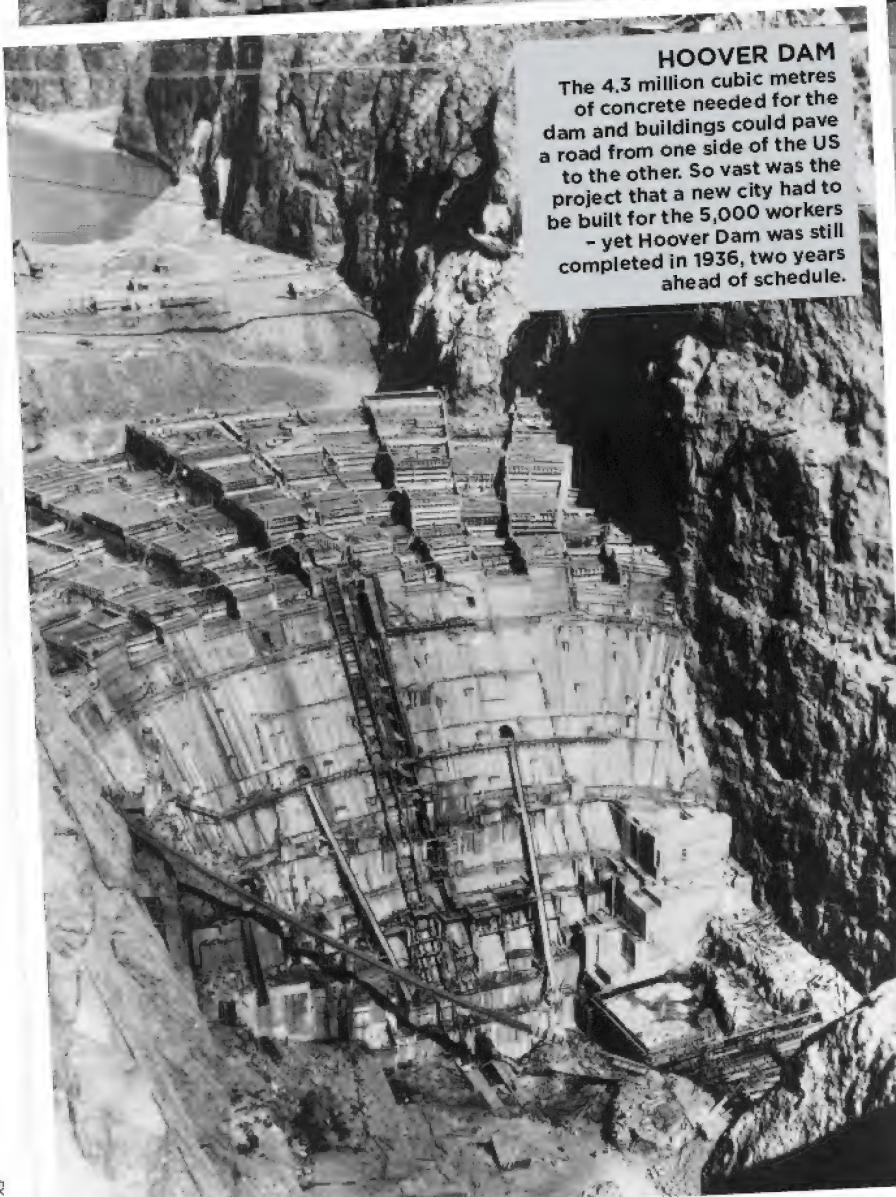
**TOWER BRIDGE**

Two piers, totalling 70,000 tonnes of concrete, were sunk into the riverbed of the Thames to support the bridge. After 432 workers had toiled for eight years, Tower Bridge was opened on 30 June 1894 by the future King Edward VII.



LONDON SEWERS

Following the 'Great Stink' of 1858, it became clear that London needed to deal with sewage differently. Engineer Joseph Bazalgette's sewer system cleaned up the city, ended cholera outbreaks and still functions today.

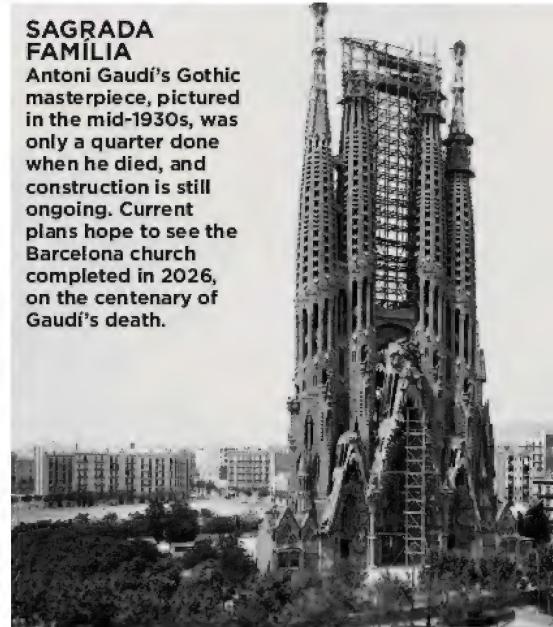


HOOVER DAM

The 4.3 million cubic metres of concrete needed for the dam and buildings could pave a road from one side of the US to the other. So vast was the project that a new city had to be built for the 5,000 workers – yet Hoover Dam was still completed in 1936, two years ahead of schedule.

SAGRADA FAMILIA

Antoni Gaudí's Gothic masterpiece, pictured in the mid-1930s, was only a quarter done when he died, and construction is still ongoing. Current plans hope to see the Barcelona church completed in 2026, on the centenary of Gaudí's death.



ST PANCRAS STATION

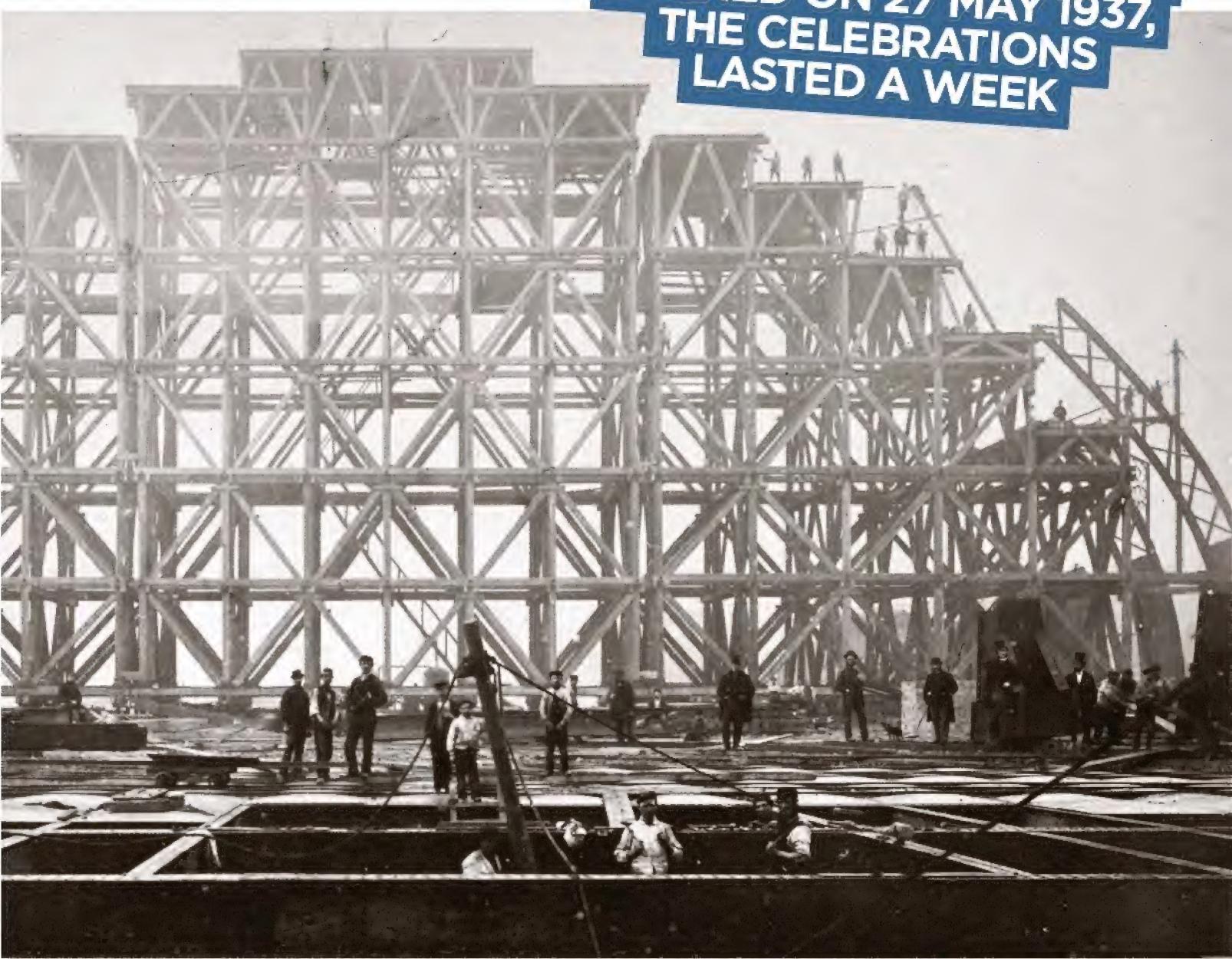
Despite the tonnes of wrought-iron girders, the 240-metre-long train shed of the London station was elevated five metres above the ground. When it opened in 1868, St Pancras had the largest single-span roof in the world.





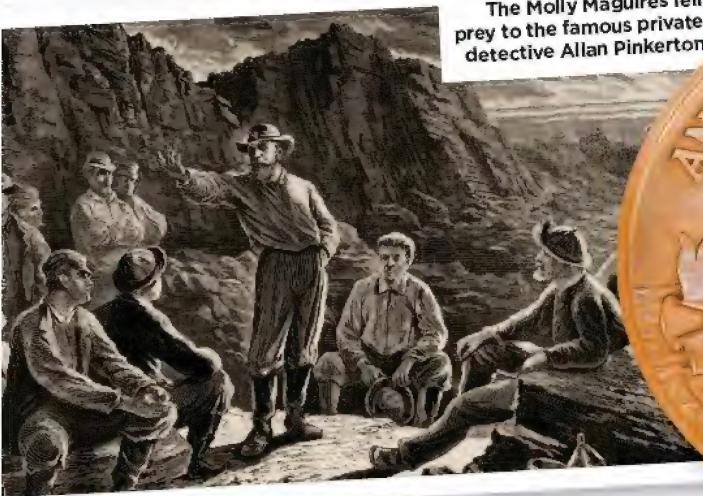
GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE
While the scene may look peaceful here, San Francisco's strong winds meant that the cables of the iconic suspension bridge had to be strong enough to allow the road to sway.

**WHEN THE GOLDEN GATE
OPENED ON 27 MAY 1937,
THE CELEBRATIONS
LASTED A WEEK**



Secret societies

Shhh, here are the groups that have been operating behind closed doors or in the shadows for centuries...



The Molly Maguires fell prey to the famous private detective Allan Pinkerton



Oddfellows in full uniform and holding ceremonial sceptres

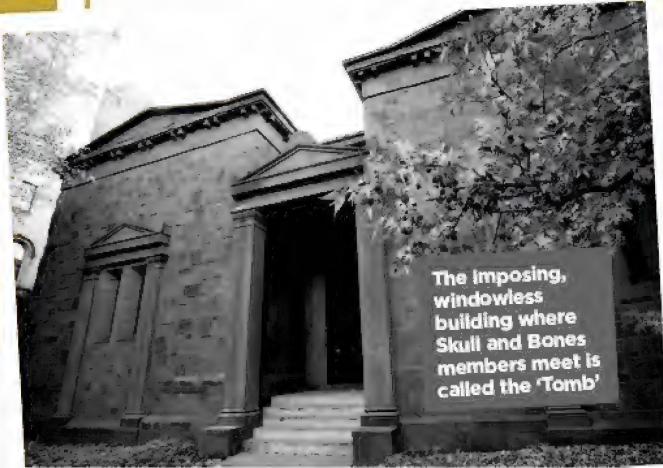
The all-seeing eye, which also appears on the dollar bill, is said to be a sign of the Illuminati's surveillance and control

THE MOLLY MAGUIRES

Named after a widow who led a group of agitators in the 1840s, the Mollies formed in Ireland to fight poor working and living conditions for farmers. They would disguise themselves as women or blacken their faces to evade capture. The clandestine union moved over to the US, where it grew rapidly among the coal miners of Pennsylvania. When a number of mine bosses wound up dead in the 1870s, the Mollies got the blame, leading to 20 being executed. Their story, which remains a much-debated topic, was immortalised in the 1970 Sean Connery film *The Molly Maguires*.

SKULL AND BONES

No, the ominous-sounding society is not a collective of pirates hellbent on plundering, but undergraduates from the US university Yale. Skull and Bones formed in 1832, after the debating societies couldn't resolve a dispute and split into factions. Every year, just 15 junior students are chosen, or 'tapped', for lifetime membership – joining an elite group of powerful figures, even presidents. Both George Bushes and politician John Kerry are members, not that they'll talk about it much in interviews.



The imposing, windowless building where Skull and Bones members meet is called the 'Tomb'

ILLUMINATI

With a name that is interchangeable with the very term 'secret society', the Illuminati remains the subject of conspiracy theories. Originally founded in Germany in 1776 by Enlightenment thinker Adam Weishaupt, the society, ironically enough, opposed superstition and obscurantism (the practice of keeping secrets). Though they were quickly outlawed with the help of the Catholic Church, rumours began that the group survived and was attracting high-profile members.

Some believe the all-seeing eye of the Great Seal of the US to be an Illuminati symbol

Today, they are still credited as the masterminds behind major world events, from the French Revolution to the Moon landings.

TIANDIHUI

Arguably a forerunner of the organised crime group the Triads, the Tiandihui (or 'Society of Heaven and Earth') was set up to overthrow the reigning Qing Dynasty in China. With its members bound by blood oaths and rituals, the society continued in

British-controlled Hong Kong, but when the Qing Dynasty finally fell in 1911, it splintered and spread to other countries. The Hongmen, as they are also known, lived on in Taiwan as a legal and politically influential body. It's sometimes said that revolutionaries and future leaders of China, Sun Yat-sen and Chiang Kai-shek, were members.



Chiang Kai-shek led China during World War II



ODDFELLOWS

Although evidence of a fraternity goes back centuries, perhaps millennia, the order was established in 1810 with the 'Manchester Unity of Oddfellows'. The union of craftsmen sought to protect members in times of sickness or financial instability, well before the welfare state or NHS. However, since the government was suspicious of secret societies, the Oddfellows were forced underground, operating from pubs and inns. When societies like the Oddfellows were legalised in 1851, they had become the largest 'friendly' society in the world. King George IV and Winston Churchill were even said to be members. Nothing too odd about those fellows!



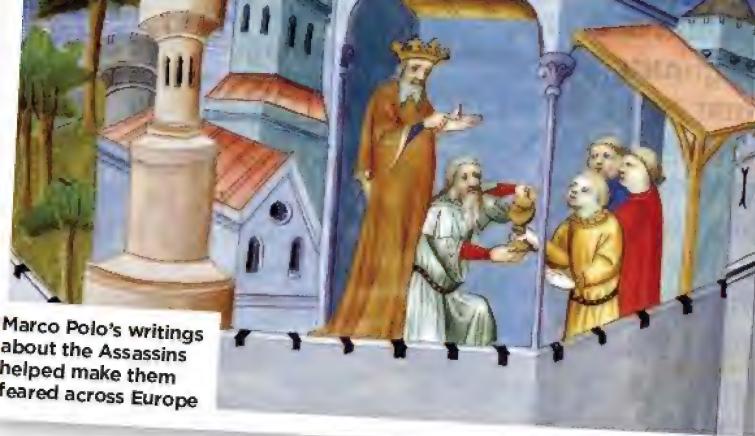
George Washington, the first US President, with the Masonic symbol of the square and compasses

FREEMASONS

Perhaps the least secretive of all the societies on our list, here's a group you can join relatively easily. All that is required is for you to be an adult man, find your local Lodge and get in touch. In order to succeed in becoming a member, though, you must be selected as a suitable candidate, before going through the initiation rites and declaring a belief in a supreme being. Formed in 18th-century London as a fraternity for stonemasons, the group expanded globally, attracting members like George Washington. Based on ideals such as kindness towards others, charity, and maintaining high moral standards, the group has some six million members worldwide.

THE ROSICRUCIANS

Members of this medieval society were big fans of the occult and claimed to be privy to an exclusive mystical, ancient world order. In the early 1600s, two manifestos were published anonymously, revealing the legend of a German doctor named Christian Rosenkreuz. According to the writings, he tried to spread Eastern religious mysticism, but found no takers, so formed a group of eight members to keep alive the knowledge he claimed to have. Nowadays, a number of societies claim that they are descended from the original Rosicrucians and are in possession of the same controversial knowledge, which has been passed down.



Marco Polo's writings about the Assassins helped make them feared across Europe

NIZARI ISMAILI ASSASSINS

This mysterious sect of Shia Muslims, based in the mountains of Persia, was known around the world for their fighting skills and prowess. During the Crusades, they successfully defended themselves against the Christian forces by using guerrilla tactics and even psychological warfare. The Crusaders feared coming up against the Assassins. And though the Mongols crushed them in the 13th century, their reputation survived. The word 'assassin' came to mean a highly trained, professional killer.

In 1895, at the height of his fame, Oscar Wilde was jailed for two years for 'gross indecency'.

ORDER OF CHAERONEA

Founded in 1897 by German-English poet George Cecil Ives, and named after an Ancient Greek battle, this order aimed to give homosexuals a safe space to communicate and interact away from watchful eyes. At a time when homosexuality was a crime, this was of vital importance. At its peak, the Order of Chaeronea may have had hundreds of members, including the playwright Oscar Wilde.



Oscar Wilde may have been one of the order's earliest recruits



ABOVE: The Interalpen-Hotel Tyrol in Austria hosted the Bilderberg meeting in 2015
LEFT: The Rosicrucian manifesto, *Fama Fraternitatis*, was published in 1614

THE BILDERBERG GROUP

Less a secret society, the Bilderberg Group is more a cagey conference. Every year since 1954, between 120 and 150 European and North American public figures have gathered to discuss the key political matters of the day. However, the 'Bilderberg Meetings' do not permit any media coverage or allow information to get into the public eye. All the outside world knows is the date and location, and who will attend. We wonder what goes on behind those closed doors...

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
If you know any other societies – if you're a member, we won't tell! – let us know
Email: editor@historyrevealed.com



UNTIMELY DEMISE
Brian Epstein's life was
one of secrets that
haunted him until his
death at the age of 32

BRIAN

EPSTEIN

THE TROUBLED MAN BEHIND THE BEATLES

Jon Savage tells the tragic tale of the architect of the Fab Four's success, and the torment that the laws against homosexuality caused him

In February 1962, Brian Epstein travelled to London to hear the results of the Beatles' demonstration test they had recorded a month earlier. The meeting with talent scout Dick Rowe was held in the Decca Records executive dining room on the South Bank. Feeling sure that the Beatles would be offered a contract, Epstein was devastated to receive a rejection. His response was typical: "You must be out of your mind," he retorted. "These boys are going to explode. I am confident that one day they will be bigger than Elvis Presley."

There was nothing bigger than Elvis Presley, and nothing less current, as far as A&R (Artists and Repertoire) men were concerned, than guitar groups. Despite the fact that the instrumental-only group, the Shadows, regularly had top-ten records, the prevailing wind was for solo performers. The UK top ten for 3 February, for instance, contained eight solo singers and instrumentalists (such as Cliff Richard, Chubby Checker and Billy Fury) and two jazz-band leaders (Acker Bilk and Kenny Ball).

Epstein was flying in the face of the trends, but he was offering the future – always a tricky thing for the music industry to handle, preferring as it does simple formulae despite the perennial demand for novelty. His retort would have been laughed off in early 1962, particularly as it came from the manager of a group from Liverpool, but Epstein's prediction came true. The Beatles eclipsed Elvis, and Epstein had been first to conceive of the thought, even before the group themselves.

Assuming the Beatles' management in December 1961, Epstein quickly started as he meant to go on. He tightened up their date sheet, gave them itineraries, got more money, and started to seek a record contract. He also got them out of the black leather outfits they had worn for most of 1961 and into smart Italian-style suits. John Lennon later complained about it, but this was the statement of a reformed sinner. All the group agreed to the change because they all wanted success.

Epstein grounded the Beatles. He gave them unconditional love in the widest

sense – which they sometimes abused, but basically respected and appreciated – and deftly oriented them within the show-business mores of the day. The Beatles would, from 1965 on, change the music industry forever, but until then, becoming a successful pop group involved doing variety shows, wearing uniform clothes, and being polite and disciplined. With his theatrical training and interest in presentation, Epstein turned a group of Liverpool hard rockers into a prototypical Boy Band.

Within 18 months of his involvement, the Beatles had the top single and album

in the UK: *From Me To You* (seven weeks at the top) and *Please Please Me* (#1 for 30 weeks). By autumn, they had become a national phenomenon and, by April 1964, they had conquered the US, with the top five singles in the Billboard charts. This was a cultural revolution, and – apart from the group and producer George Martin – the man who had

engineered it was Brian Epstein.

DISSATISFIED YOUTH

Born in September 1934 as the first child to a comfortably off Jewish family, Epstein was an outsider by the time he was a teenager. His education was interrupted by frequent school moves and his army career (this being the age of enforced national service). Dissatisfied while working in his family's business, NEMS (North End Music Stores) – as a teenager he had expressed the desire to be a dress designer – he went to the prestigious RADA drama school for a year in 1956, but didn't stay the course.

Nevertheless, his theatrical bent served him in the record shops that NEMS opened after his return. Epstein developed an ear for future pop hits – for instance, buying in hundreds of copies of John Leyton's *Johnny Remember Me* well before it rose to number one – and a flair for presentation that made NEMS one of the most important record retail outlets in the North West. With an ordering policy of at least one copy of almost every single released, it was a magnet for Liverpool youth, including the four fledgling Beatles.

Despite his business successes, he was drifting, directionless and dissatisfied.

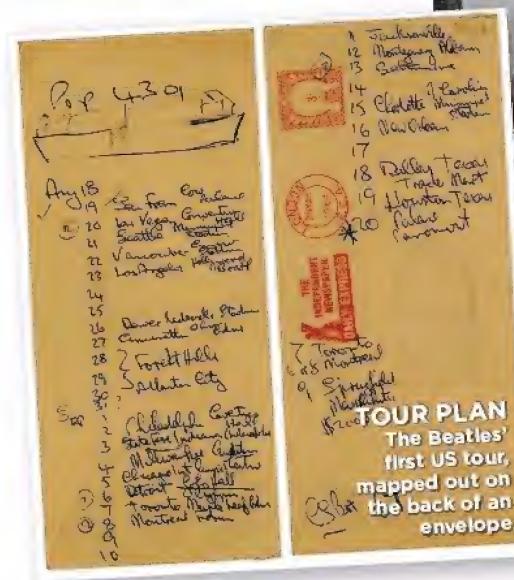
Yet all this changed on 9 December 1961, when Epstein went to see the Beatles play a lunchtime session at the Cavern Club. He was aware of the group name from posters around the city and, more pertinently, from customer requests for their German-only release *My Bonnie*. When he met them that day, he recognised at least one as a regular customer in NEMS. But that wasn't what hit him.

"Something tremendous came over," he stated in his 1964 autobiography *A Cellarful of Noise*, "and I was immediately struck by their music, their beat, and their sense of humour on stage. They were very funny; their ad-libbing was excellent. I liked them enormously... I thought their sound was something that an awful lot of people would like. They were fresh and they were honest and they had what I thought was a sort of presence, and – this is a terrible, vague term – 'star quality'. Whatever that is, they had it – or I sensed that they had it."

This was an instinctive decision, indeed a conversion. In the Beatles, Epstein found his cause. He adored them as artists, and they provided a focus for his wish to change the world. Much of his restlessness and unhappiness was caused by one incontrovertible fact – he was homosexual (or 'queer' in the parlance of the era) at a time when society was very prescriptive of same-sex relationships. Any physical expression of his sexuality was illegal, leaving him open to violence, imprisonment and blackmail (especially since he took risks).

PLEASE PLEASE HIM
Epstein proudly displays his charges' first LP in his record shop

FAB FIVE
Despite coming from different backgrounds, the group treated Epstein as one of their gang





HOMOSEXUALITY AND THE LAW COURTING TROUBLE

Until 1967, the law relating to homosexuality in the UK – apart from the proscriptions against buggery – was section 11 of the Criminal Law Amendment Act 1885, known as the Labouchere Amendment. This prohibited ‘gross indecency’ between males, a catch-all term that covered most male homosexual activity. This was the law under which Oscar Wilde and many thousands of other gay men would be tried and imprisoned over the next decades.

Allied to this was the sense that homosexuals were the lowest of the low in social terms – outcast and degenerate. This only amplified after World War II in the Cold War paranoia of the time. The defection of Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean in 1951, along with the McCarthy hearings in the US, helped to create a hostile climate. There was a concerted press campaign and a police crackdown on gay men in the early fifties. Between 1945 and 1955, the number of annual prosecutions for homosexual behaviour rose from 800 to 2,500.

This all changed after the Edward Montagu case, where three well-connected gay men, including Lord Montagu, were tried and imprisoned. One of them, Peter Wildeblood, wrote an influential book called *Against the Law*. Published in 1955, it informed the institution of the Wolfenden committee to examine the law on homosexuality.

The report of the committee, published in 1957, pointed forward to decriminalisation. This only happened after years of campaigning and lobbying when a bill proposed by Labour MP, Leo Abse, was passed into law in July 1967. This didn’t eradicate the stigma, however, or the dangers.



LANDMARK CASE

7 November 1953: Lord Montagu attracted huge crowds when he arrived for his trial over sexual offences

HOW BRIAN MADE HIS MARK

THE EPSTEIN FACTOR

WELL PRESENTED

Before Brian Epstein, the Beatles were without a manager or a plan. They smoked and ate on stage, and swore at the audience. Epstein gave them a basic discipline, a written weekly structure, and – in collaboration with the group – designed stage suits to replace their black leather gear. Lennon later used this fact as an example of the group 'selling out', but agreed to it at the time. To make themselves presentable to agents and people who ran radio and television, they had to fit into the show-business conventions of the time.



PERFECT PARTNERS

Epstein was determined to get the group a record contract. After trying Decca, Pye and several other smaller labels, he landed a contract – through a circuitous route – with George Martin at EMI's Parlophone Records. Martin was smarting at the success of Norrie Paramor (Cliff Richard, Helen Shapiro, the Shadows) at EMI's Columbia Records and wanted his own British pop act. Once a rapport had been established, he worked with Epstein to coordinate the Beatles' recording times and studio releases.



TOPPING THE BILL

American success was the great dream of British artists in the early sixties. Only three acts had ever had an American number one, and none had repeated this success. In his negotiations with Ed Sullivan, who ran the highest-rating entertainment show on American television, Epstein insisted that the Beatles had top billing. He had to compromise on the fee, but got his way. The Beatles headlined three Ed Sullivan shows in February 1964 – an incredible amount of exposure that made them superstars in America.



STARS OF THE SCREEN

Films were another box tick for sixties pop stars. Epstein put the group together with Walter Shenson of United Artists and director Richard Lester during 1964. In common with the Beatles' records, *A Hard Day's Night* was an artistic triumph created on the run. Their second film *Help!* was less of a piece, but remains a fascinating mid-sixties travelogue with some wonderful songs. The script for a third film was still under discussion in early 1967 – as noted in the diaries of famed playwright Joe Orton – but nothing was agreed.



GLOBAL AUDIENCE

One of Epstein's last acts for the group was to sign them up for inclusion as the British segment in the world's first satellite television link, *Our World*. Their performance of *All You Need Is Love*, videotaped in London's Abbey Road Studios, was watched by more than 400 million people across 25 countries. Along with Monterey, this event did more than anything to cement 1967 as the Summer of Love and the Beatles as pop culture leaders.



STABLE OF STARS

The Beatles, Gerry and the Pacemakers and Billy J Kramer's Dakotas pose with their manager

Many gay men ignored these oppressive conditions and got on with their lives, but Epstein was sensitive, angry and burning at injustice. In April 1957, he was arrested for 'persistent importuning' by a police provocateur in a Swiss Cottage toilet (public toilets, or 'cottages', were frequently used by gay men for sex, which was a fact frequently exploited by 'pretty policemen' who would indicate interest and then put the handcuffs on). He was devastated. In a hand-written document to be used in his defence, he railed: "The damage, the lying criminal methods of the police in importuning me and consequently capturing me leaves me cold, stunned and finished."

MUTUAL NEED

But this unpleasant event gave him a wider understanding of what it was to be an outcast: "I feel deeply, because I have always felt deeply for the persecuted, the Jews, the coloured people, for the old and society's misfits." It was this realisation that led Epstein away from a conventional career path into pop management. In late 1961, he found an outlet for his visions in a scruffy group that nobody wanted. The Beatles also felt like outcasts at that point, and both parties saw something in each other that went beyond business. They recognised a mutual need.

Once the Beatles had found success, Epstein did another extraordinary thing in terms of pop management. Instead of the customary Svengali act, he set them free artistically. In this, they were encouraged by producer George Martin. Rather than tell the Beatles what to do and what songs to play, as was standard practice at the time, he worked with the group to help them realise their vision. Anything more unlike Elvis – who was railroaded during the sixties by manager 'Colonel Tom' Parker into a series of poor Hollywood films with dreadful songs – could not be imagined.



By 1965, the Beatles were on top of the world, globally successful on their own terms. Epstein himself was extremely rich and validated – not only with the Beatles, but with his other acts like Cilla Black and Gerry and the Pacemakers – but success did not bring stability.

BAD HABITS

The patterns of his early life were set. He continued to indulge in risk-taking behaviour, both in his private life and his leisure activities, such as his reckless gambling habit and a reliance on pills and prescription drugs that began to take over his daily life.

The year 1966 was when the Beatles found the limits of their freedom, most notably when a chance comment by Lennon about the group being "more popular than Jesus" caused a furore. Death threats and burnings of Beatle products overshadowed the upcoming American tour.

Epstein conducted a successful damage-limitation campaign – the shows went ahead but the Beatles had had enough, and unilaterally decided that they would give up touring.

For Epstein, this was a shattering blow. He loved the planning and the activity of the tours. Without this function, he felt his connection with the Beatles weakening. His poor mental state was compounded by the fact that, during the Beatles' last concert, he had been robbed of money and incriminating documents by his then-partner, 'Dizz' Gillespie.

At the end of September 1966, he attempted suicide, but was found by assistant Peter Brown and rushed to hospital. After recovering, Epstein,



AGENT PROMOTER
The Saville Theatre became an outlet for Epstein's theatrical ambitions

"I feel deeply, because I have always felt deeply for the persecuted"

knowing the Beatles would not reconvene for three months, took on a West End venue called the Saville Theatre and showcased pop concerts. One of his first promotions, in November 1966, was the Four Tops, then at number one with *Reach Out, I'll Be There*. In January 1967, he undertook a merger between NEMS and the company of Robert Stigwood, manager of Cream and later the Bee Gees. He began taking LSD, which appeared to have a beneficial effect on his psyche.

There was still Beatle business, though: the renegotiation of their EMI contract in January 1967, the *Penny Lane/Strawberry Fields Forever* single, and *Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* album. In one of his last acts for the group, Epstein arranged a video recording of their new single to be played as Britain's segment on the *Our World* global television link. On 25 June 1967, *All You Need Is Love* beamed to over 400 million viewers in 25 countries. >



LOVE OF THE LOVED
Cilla Black was Epstein's only female artist

THE ROAD TO EQUALITY LGBTQ RIGHTS

Attitudes to homosexuality did not change overnight after the 1967 Act. As Peter Tatchell has pointed out, convictions for gross indecency went up afterwards. Despite the activities of Gay Lib and David Bowie's profound influence on pop music after his coming out in January 1972, as far as the mainstream was concerned, homosexuals were still camp, flighty individuals – figures of sitcom fun even if they weren't actual threats.

Various lobbying groups sprung up during the late-seventies, but it was the arrival of AIDS and the consequent tabloid persecution that gave gay politics a boost during the mid-eighties. It seemed like a question of get organised or die. From organisations like Stonewall and Outrage came a fresh wave of lobbyists and activists who helped to change, slowly, social attitudes and institutional structures towards homosexuals.

Under Tony Blair's Labour Government, the drive to equality accelerated. In 2001, the age of consent for gay men was reduced to 16 (the 1967 bill had stated 21). In 2004, same-sex couples were granted Civil Partnerships. In 2007, discrimination against gay men and lesbians in the provision of goods and services was made illegal. And in 2014, same-sex marriage became legal in the UK.



HE LOVES YOU
Almost 40 years after Epstein's death, UK law allows same-sex marriage



SHOCKED AND STUNNED
The Beatles were in Bangor when they heard of Epstein's death, while fans gathered outside his Belgravia home

"The relative liberalisation of the mid-sixties had, for him, come too late"

On 27 July 1967, male homosexuality was partially decriminalised. Exactly a month later, Epstein was found dead at his Belgravia home. Although the circumstances were not crystal clear, it seems likely that his death was an accidental prescription-drug overdose. Although this made national news, none of Epstein's obituaries mentioned that he was homosexual. The relative liberalisation of the mid-sixties had, for him, come too late.

There is a distinct irony in the fact that Epstein died so soon after the passing of legislation that would, in time, make life better for homosexual people. With the Beatles, he helped to instigate the social changes that were the backdrop to the liberalising legislation of the sixties, but he was unable to benefit. The stigma had gone too deep. The guilt and poor self-image that built up over all those years in the shadows made it impossible for

him – as it still does for many gay men – to avoid extreme risk-taking and the attendant consequences.

History was not kind to Epstein for years. He died early in the story and was not around to defend himself. He was accused of personal and financial misdemeanours, most particularly in the disastrous story of the Beatles' US merchandising company, Seltaeb. No doubt he did make mistakes, but this was an extraordinary event of unreckoned magnitude. Yet, simply, the Beatles would not have happened without Brian Epstein. In this respect, he should be counted as a man who altered the course of 20th-century history. ☀

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
How have attitudes to homosexuality changed in the 40 years since the change in the law?
Email: editor@historyrevealed.com

FAB MEMORIES THE BEATLES ON BRIAN

The Beatles oscillated between acknowledging and underrating Brian Epstein while he was alive. They did respect his authority and trusted him to make the right business decisions. On hearing of his death, however, John Lennon immediately realised Epstein's centrality to their success. As he told Jann Wenner in 1970, "I knew that we were in trouble then. I didn't really have any misconceptions about our ability to do anything other than play music and I was scared. I thought, 'We've had it now!'"

"After Brian died there was a huge void," George Harrison stated in the Beatles' *Anthology* documentary. "We didn't know anything about our personal business and finances, he had taken care of everything, and it was chaos after that." Ringo Starr described the group's confusion: "We wondered what we were going to do. We were suddenly like chickens without heads. What are we going to do? What are we going to do?"

In later years, all the group remembered Epstein fondly as an integral part of their success. As Paul McCartney remembered in the BBC Arena documentary *The Brian Epstein Story*, other people offered themselves as Beatles managers after Epstein's death: "I'd never liked the idea, partly because I'd seen how Brian did it and no one else was ever going to stack up against Brian in my mind. No one would ever be able to do it as good because you couldn't have the flair, the panache, the wit, the intelligence Brian had... Brian was just too good."

IT'S AN HONOUR
After receiving their MBEs from the Queen, Paul and George quipped "MBE stands for Mr Brian Epstein"



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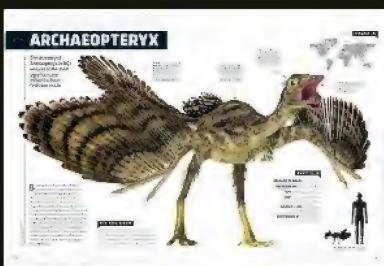
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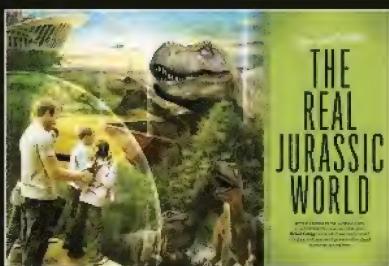
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TRUE STORY

Some of the dialogue in *Apollo 13* was taken from NASA's mission recordings

331

The number of years that the Plantagenets ruled England, from Henry II in 1154 to Richard III in 1485 – not far off three times longer than the Tudors.

WHAT IS THE MOST HISTORICALLY ACCURATE FILM?



Ah, the dreaded 'based on a true story' tagline. To some filmmakers, it gives them carte blanche to create, essentially, a work of fiction and claim historical veracity – looking at you, *Braveheart* and *Pearl Harbor*. Others, however, have really done their homework.

Among the films regularly praised are *All the President's*

Men (for its methodical pace as it follows two journalists uncovering the Watergate scandal); the 1958 drama *A Night to Remember*, which tells the stories of several passengers aboard the *Titanic*; and, for its brutal depiction of slavery in 19th-century America, Steve McQueen's *12 Years a Slave*.

Even when the plot may not be based on real events or people,

films can still be faithful to the period or setting, such as the 2003 epic *Master and Commander*, set on a British ship in the Napoleonic Wars. Director Peter Weir's attention to detail is staggering, from the layout of the HMS *Surprise* to the sounds of battle.

For the highest degree of accuracy, though, it makes sense that the film would be on a

subject with meticulous record keeping, such as space missions. For that reason, *Apollo 13* (1995) may deserve the title of most historically accurate. Director Ron Howard called in technical assistance from NASA, put the actors through astronaut and flight-controller training, and used transcripts or recordings from the actual mission for the dialogue.

GOD OR NOT
Take Spanish tales of
Aztec confusion with
a big pinch of salt



DID THE AZTECS THINK CORTÉS WAS A GOD?

CONQUISTADOR Considering that the Spanish conquistador Hernán Cortés would go on to obliterate the Aztec empire, it seems a fatal error for them to welcome him as a deity. Yet it has been often repeated that Montezuma II gifted Cortés and his men with gold after they landed in Mexico in 1519, believing him to be a returned form of Quetzalcoatl, the feathered serpent god.

Except, this isn't true. Cortés wrote to King Charles V portraying the Aztecs as backward, heretical and in awe of Spanish might, but not

worshipping him as a god. The only evidence of this notion comes from Spanish sources, particularly the writings of Franciscan friar Bernardino de Sahagún, who was present with Cortés. In his Florentine Codex, printed five decades after the conquest, he claims Montezuma spoke of Cortés "graciously" coming to Earth, but the whole speech is fake. History is written by the winners and all that.

116

The number of pieces that made up a Minton dessert set purchased by Queen Victoria at the Great Exhibition in 1851.

Why is New York the 'Big Apple'?

THE FRUIT It is nothing to do with the fruit or, as one theory claims, a brothel owner who referred to her girls as 'big apples'.

New York's famous nickname was popularised in the world of horseracing. In the mid-1920s, John F Fitzgerald, sports writer for the New York

Morning Telegraph, heard a couple of jockeys refer to the races, and the sizeable cash prizes, in and around the city as the 'big apple'.

His articles using the name caught on enough to influence a couple of jazz numbers, but it wouldn't be until the 1970s – when jazz fan Charles

Gillet based a whole tourist campaign on New York being the 'Big Apple' – that the name was established once and for all. Funnily enough, it was the second time New York had the name of a fruit. In 1673, the Dutch had christened the land 'New Orange' in honour of William of Orange.

WHO WAS THE FIRST WOMAN TO RUN FOR US PRESIDENT?

WOODHULL It was nearly 150 years before Hillary Clinton that a woman first made a run for the White House. What makes the timing of Victoria Woodhull's candidacy more remarkable is that the 19th Amendment, granting women the vote, wouldn't be adopted for another 48 years.

Woodhull had made her millions as a stockbroker (the first woman to do the job) and, with her sister, opened a brokerage firm on Wall Street and launched a women's rights newspaper. She announced her intention to stand in the 1872 election, declaring, "I claim the right to speak for the unenfranchised women of the country". She headed the Equal Rights Party and the great abolitionist Frederick Douglass was selected as her running mate (although it is highly

unlikely that he accepted).

On the day of the election, however, Woodhull was behind bars. She had been arrested on obscenity charges for writing about Henry Ward Beecher, a nationally prominent and influential preacher, and his affair with a member of his church. Woodhull was dubbed 'Mrs Satan' and received not a single official vote. While others have followed Woodhull's stance, the US still waits for a woman to sit in the Oval Office.





BAD TASTE
Naval banter about poor rations spawned the off-colour expression

What is a 'rum fanny'?

Target Don't worry, it's not rude – but it is gruesome. In 1867, an eight-year-old girl, Fanny Adams, was kidnapped, murdered and dismembered in the market town of Alton, Hampshire. Her brutal death caused a national outcry in Britain, but it also came around the time that canned meat started becoming the norm in Royal Navy sailors' diets. The rumour

or joke (suitably enough, in poor taste) spread that Fanny's body parts had made their way into the mutton. Despite that, sailors quickly discovered that the meat tins proved useful for collecting the daily tot of rum, so they used them every day and took to calling them 'fannys'.

HOW DID ROMANS MARK A FUNERAL?

Target Some of the practices used to send a Roman to the afterlife don't sound wildly different from how we do funerals today – a burial or cremation, eulogies and acts of commemoration. But then again, what with the animal sacrifices and the fighting to the death, funerals in Rome could be surprisingly violent affairs.

As law forbade burying the dead inside the sacred city boundaries, a procession was required to get to the cemetery, the most lavish of which would include musicians, actors and a troupe of professional mourners. Once at the site of burial, there would be a sacrifice (a sow for the wealthy, or an offering of wine, incense and grain for the poor), followed by a eulogy.

But before heading back to the family home for a feast, some Roman funerals then featured the *Bustuarii* – slaves who had to fight to the death right next to the grave. Their name comes from *bustum*, or funeral pyre. Possibly originating in 264 BC, when two bereaved sons arranged a bout at their father's funeral, the practice grew in popularity. When the public figure Publius Licinius Crassus died in 183 BC, some 120 men fought for more than three days. Soon, the fighting stopped being associated with funerals and became a sport – where tens of thousands gathered in giant stadiums to watch the carnage of the gladiatorial games.



REGAL RIVALS
A chained silver unicorn faces its nemesis, the lion, on the Royal Arms

Why is Scotland's national animal a unicorn?

Target Last time anyone checked, there weren't many unicorns trotting through the Highlands, yet the Scots have long had a bond with the mythical horned horses. They're not the only ones, too, as unicorns and descriptions of their magical healing abilities appear in ancient Babylonian, Persian, Roman, Greek and Hebrew writings. To the Celts, they represented purity, joy and life.

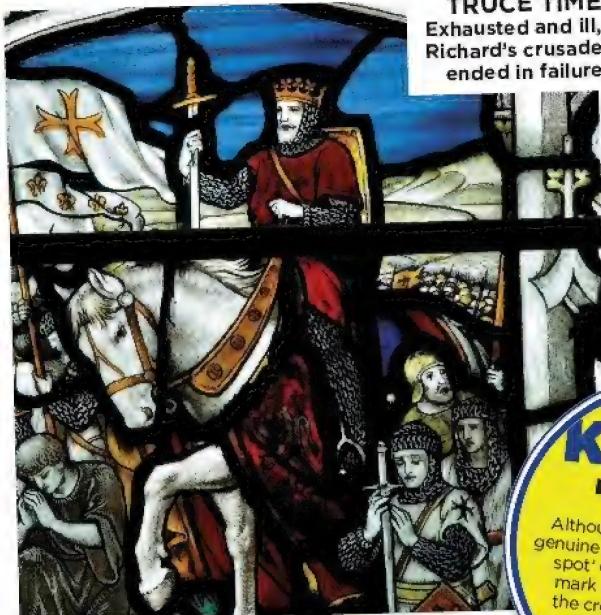
They became a symbol of chivalry and, by the 12th century, were adopted as Scotland's national animal. After all, unicorns were the enemy of the lion – handy, as that was the animal of choice for the English. That is why both appear on the royal coat of arms.



PYRE PILE-IN
Roman funerals could end with specially trained slaves fighting to the death

Why did Richard the Lionheart not capture Jerusalem?

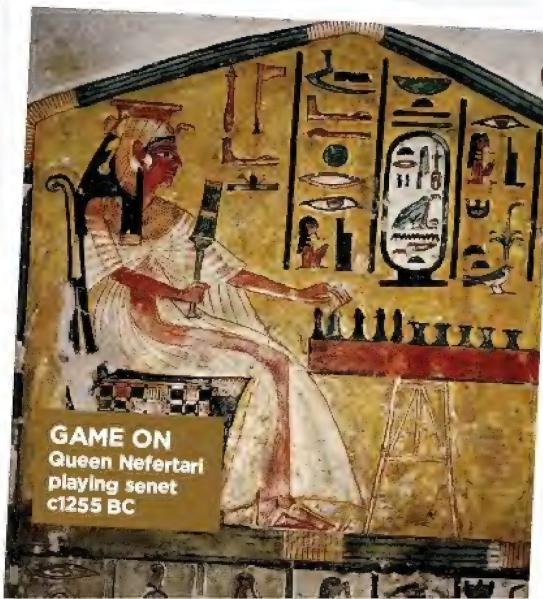
After a run of successes in the Third Crusade (begun in 1189), the English king Richard the Lionheart had marched to within 12 miles of Jerusalem by late 1191, only to retreat to the coast. On the verge of capturing the hugely symbolic (and poorly defended) city, terrible weather of high winds and sleet had set in and Richard – who was also unwell – grew concerned that the Muslim leader Saladin would send a force to cut his army off. He had another chance in June 1192, coming within sight of the city only for the other leaders of the crusade to fall out. The Lionheart signed a treaty with Saladin and Jerusalem stayed in Muslim hands.



HOW OLD IS THE BOARD GAME?

Back off, backgammon – that may go back 5,000 years in Persia, but there is an even older game. It is thought that 'senet' was being played in the earliest dynastic period of Ancient Egypt, c3100 BC. A hieroglyphic seemingly showing the game board was found in the tomb of Merknera. It seems that Tutankhamun enjoyed senet as well, as several sets were discovered in his tomb. The rules are lost to history, but some things are known: it is a two-player game on a board that's three squares by ten; each player has several pieces, and the aim may have been to race the opponent around the board by throwing sticks in the same way that we use dice.

ALAMY XL GETTY X2



WORRIED SICK
'English Sweat'
could bring death
in just three hours

WHAT WAS THE SWEATING SICKNESS?

Henry VIII's executioners weren't the most dangerous threat to people's lives in Tudor England – which you'd be forgiven for thinking considering how many people they bumped off for him – as the country fell prey to a highly contagious disease, the cause of which continues to be a mystery to this day.

The 'Sweating Sickness' struck five times between 1485 and the mid-16th century. Strangely, it just affected England for the most part, hence its other name 'sudor anglicus', or 'English Sweat'. It began with cold shivers and shudders, followed by exhaustion, and pains in the arms, legs, shoulders and neck. Then came the sweating, profuse drenching sweating. Headaches, delirium, shortness of breath, weakness

and chest pain followed, before either death or recovery. The infected could die in as little as three hours. In Holinshed's *Chronicles*, published in 1577, two decades after the final outbreak, the sickness was described as "so sharp and deadly that the lyke was never hearde of to any manne's remembrance before that tyme".

If victims made it through 24 hours, they had a good chance of survival, but tens of thousands perished in the swift-moving epidemics. It affected rich and poor alike, with Anne Boleyn and Cardinal Wolsey falling ill, and nobles keeling over despite the skill of their physicians. On occasions, Henry VIII himself left London to avoid the rampant disease.

It is possible that the sickness came to England at the exact same time as the Tudor dynasty, with reports of illness at the Battle of Bosworth, but much remains unknown. With today's medical knowledge, the culprits put forward include hantavirus and anthrax.

DID YOU KNOW?

BLACK MARKS THE SPOT
Although often mistaken for a genuine pirate practice, the 'black spot' (supposedly given as a mark of death) was actually the creation of Robert Louis Stevenson for his 1883 novel *Treasure Island*.

Thanks to Tamsyn Courtney and Richard Ives for sending in their questions

NOW SEND US YOUR QUESTIONS

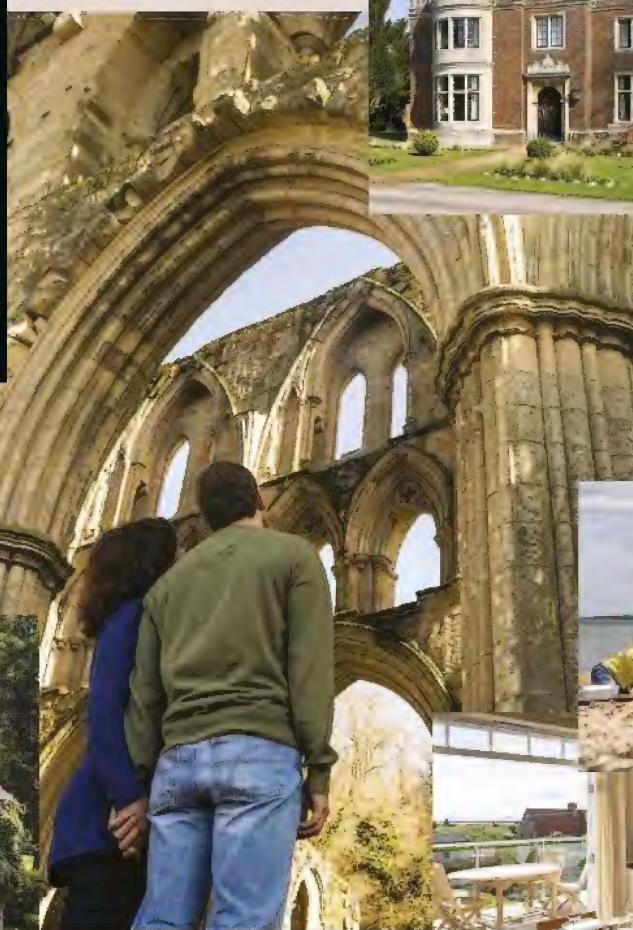
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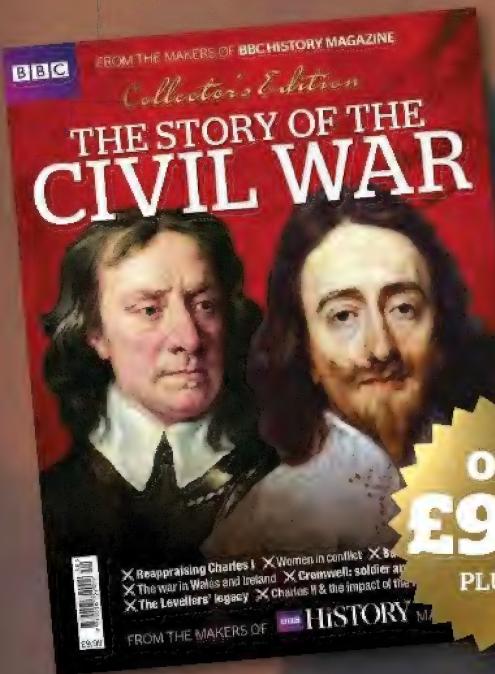
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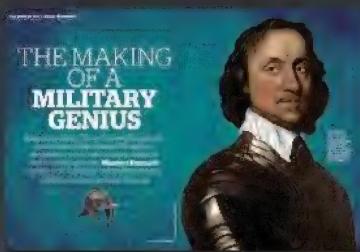
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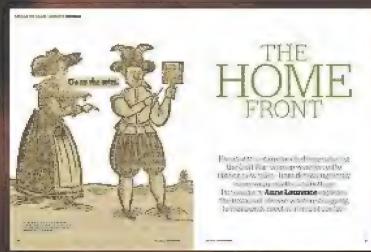
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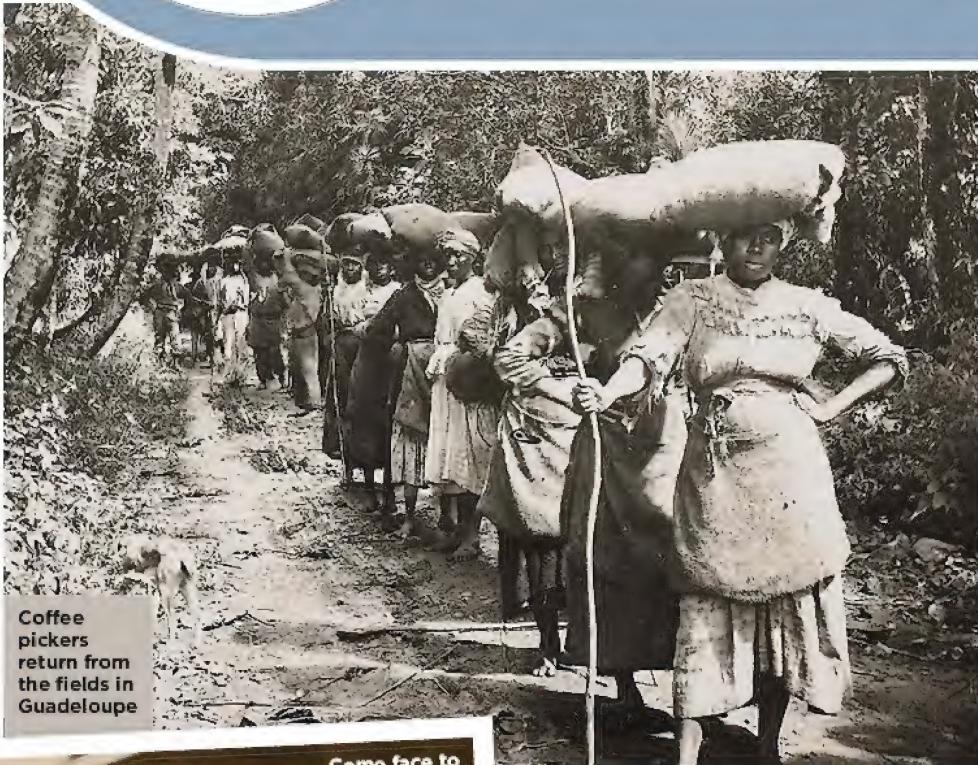
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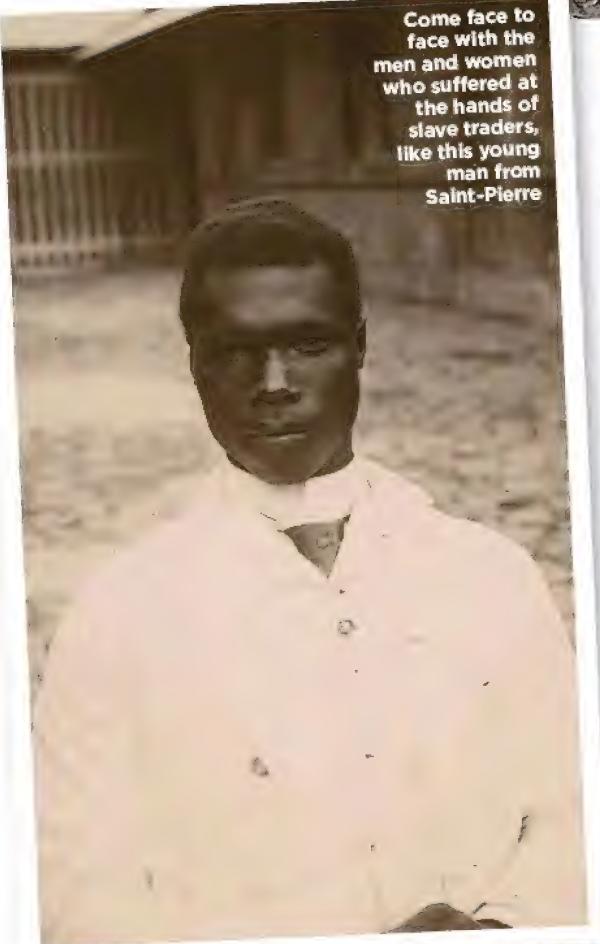
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ON OUR RADAR

A guide to what's happening in the world of history over the coming weeks



Coffee pickers return from the fields in Guadeloupe



Come face to face with the men and women who suffered at the hands of slave traders, like this young man from Saint-Pierre

EXHIBITION

Ink and Blood: Stories of Abolition

International Slavery Museum, Liverpool, until 8 April www.bit.ly/2jTtaBy

Looking into Liverpool's connection with the slave trade, this exhibition tells the stories of people who were enslaved, as well as contemporary responses to the abolition movement. Among the collection are objects from museums all over Britain, including key documents and images.

“Just a few grams of paper but millions of shattered destinies”

Jean Francois Manicom, Curator

WHAT'S ON

Our guide to upcoming events includes Jorvik Viking Festival.....p79



BRITAIN'S TREASURES

Chatsworth - a must-visit for Austen fans.....p84



BOOK REVIEWS

Our look at the best new releases.....p86



POSTCARDS FROM THE PAST

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MATT BULLEN X1, JOHN & DANIELLE HARRIGAN X1

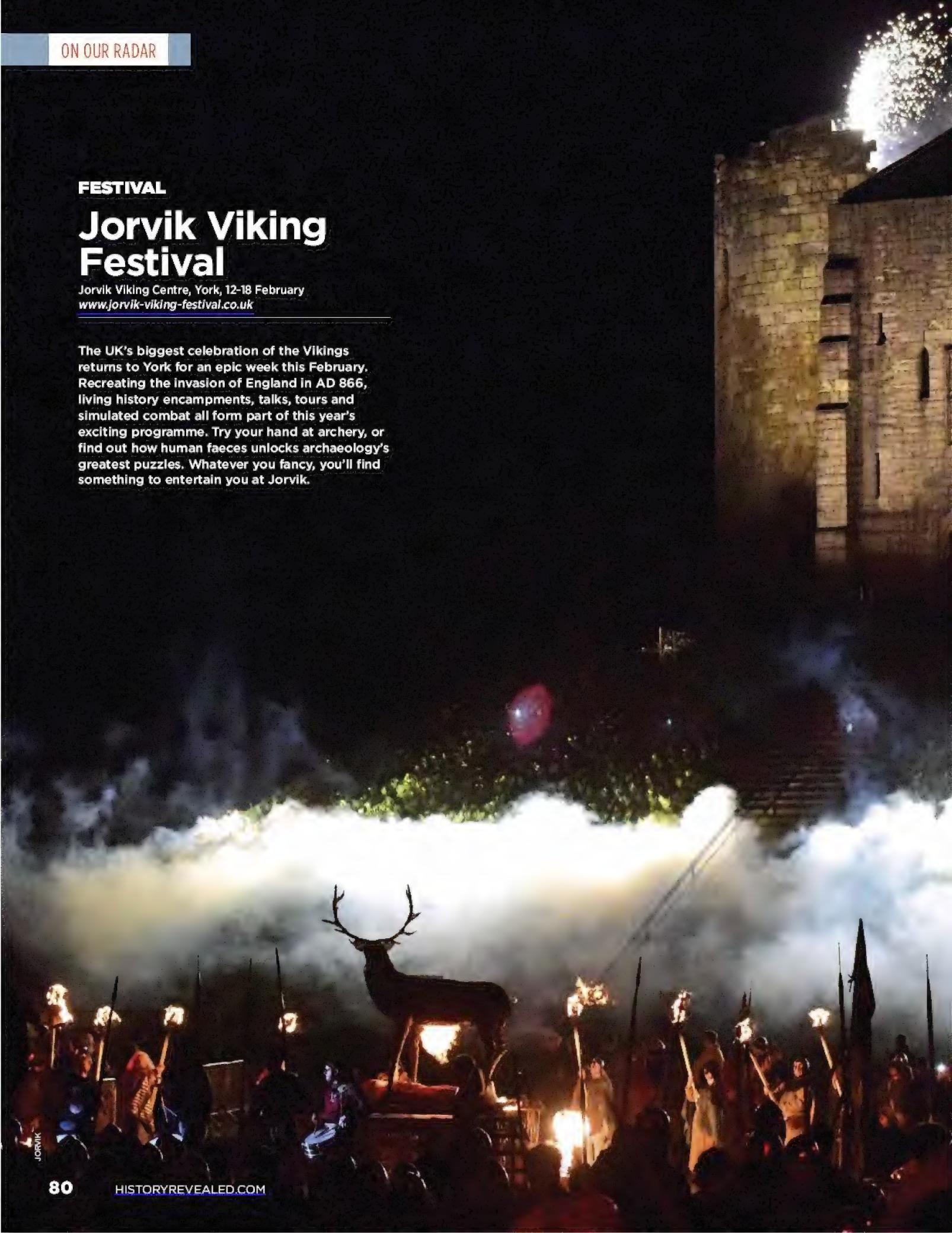
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Jorvik Viking Centre, York, 12-18 February
www.jorvik-viking-festival.co.uk

The UK's biggest celebration of the Vikings returns to York for an epic week this February. Recreating the invasion of England in AD 866, living history encampments, talks, tours and simulated combat all form part of this year's exciting programme. Try your hand at archery, or find out how human faeces unlocks archaeology's greatest puzzles. Whatever you fancy, you'll find something to entertain you at Jorvik.



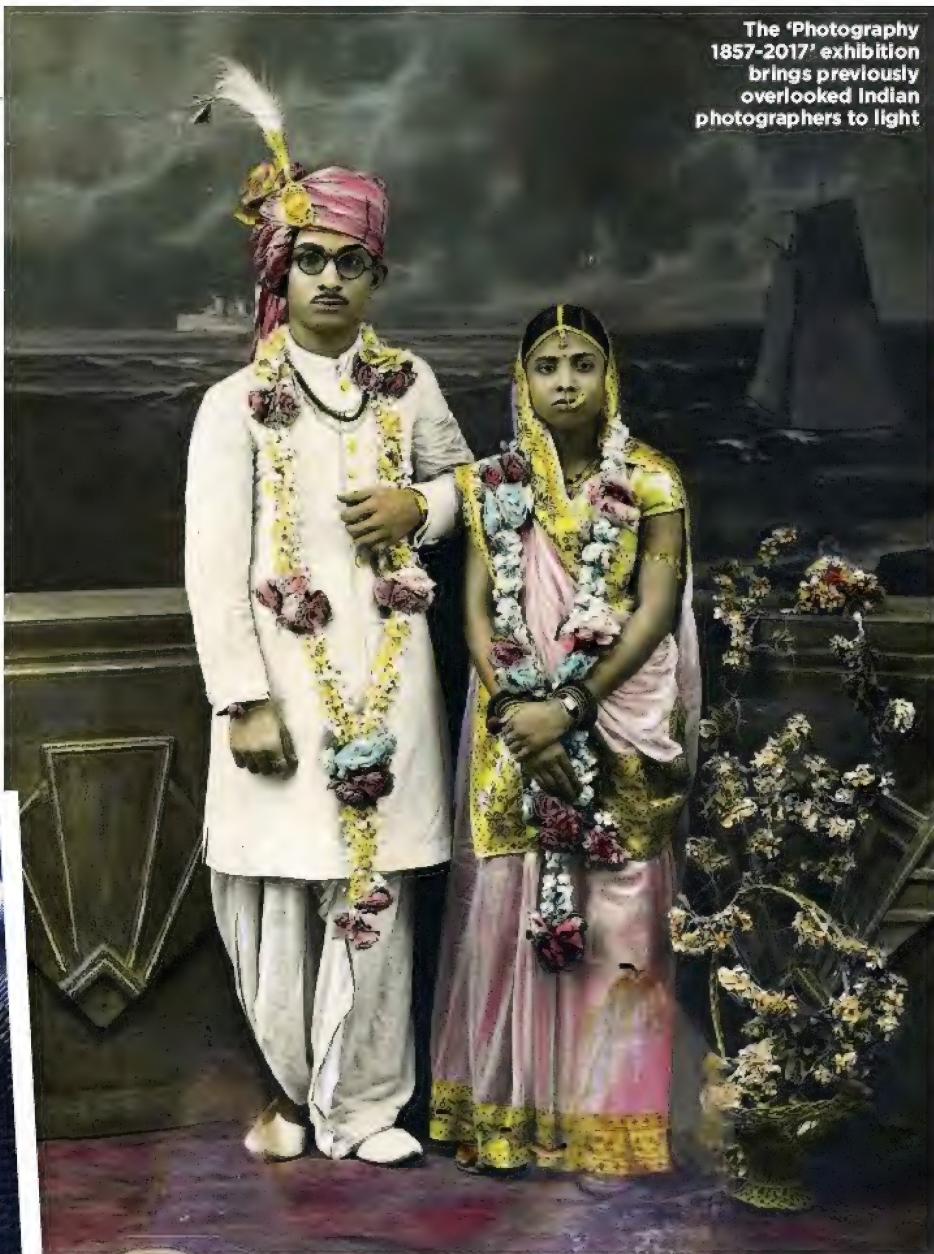


EXHIBITION

Illuminating India

Science Museum, London, until 31 March
www.bit.ly/2yb6J3b

This season of exhibitions and events, part of the UK-India Year of Culture, enables visitors to learn about India's contribution to the modern world we live in. One exhibition, '5,000 Years of Science and Innovation', shows how the subcontinent has always played a huge part in technological, scientific and mathematical developments. Another, entitled 'Photography 1857-2017', depicts how India has developed (both technically and culturally) over the past 160 years.



ABOVE: See the NovaSAR satellite, a UK-India collaboration scheduled for launch this year RIGHT: A 'Bhugola', representing the Earth as known in Hindu cosmology



“Visitors will leave thinking that technology may, after all, be making the world a better place”

Simon Ings, *New Scientist*

TO BUY

Tudor Rose enamel locket

£24.99, Historic Royal Palaces Shop
www.bit.ly/2CKusKV

This Valentine's Day, treat your other half to this beautiful Tudor Rose necklace, symbolising the union of the two rival houses of York and Lancaster through the marriage of Henry Tudor to Elizabeth of York. Inspired by original Tudor and Stewart designs, this piece is sure to stand out. Slip a photograph of yourself – or even a lock of your hair! – inside so that you're always close to your loved one's heart. The perfect gift for fashionistas and history fanatics alike.



SCREENING

Suffragette

National Archives, London, 9 February www.bit.ly/2C5aPbx

Carey Mulligan stars as Maud, a 24-year-old laundress who risks her life for her cause



EXHIBITION

Scotland's Early Silver

National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh, until 25 February
www.bit.ly/2fjEN5Q

See how this precious metal helped to shape the formation of Scotland, starting from the Roman era, when it was brought over by the centurions. Once the Romans had left, much of their silver was melted down into other items, helping to transform society as it passed through the ages.



This fifth-century bowl features the head of Hercules

EVENT

LEGO Jacobite Risings

Stirling Castle, until 2 February, www.bit.ly/2AF4J5r

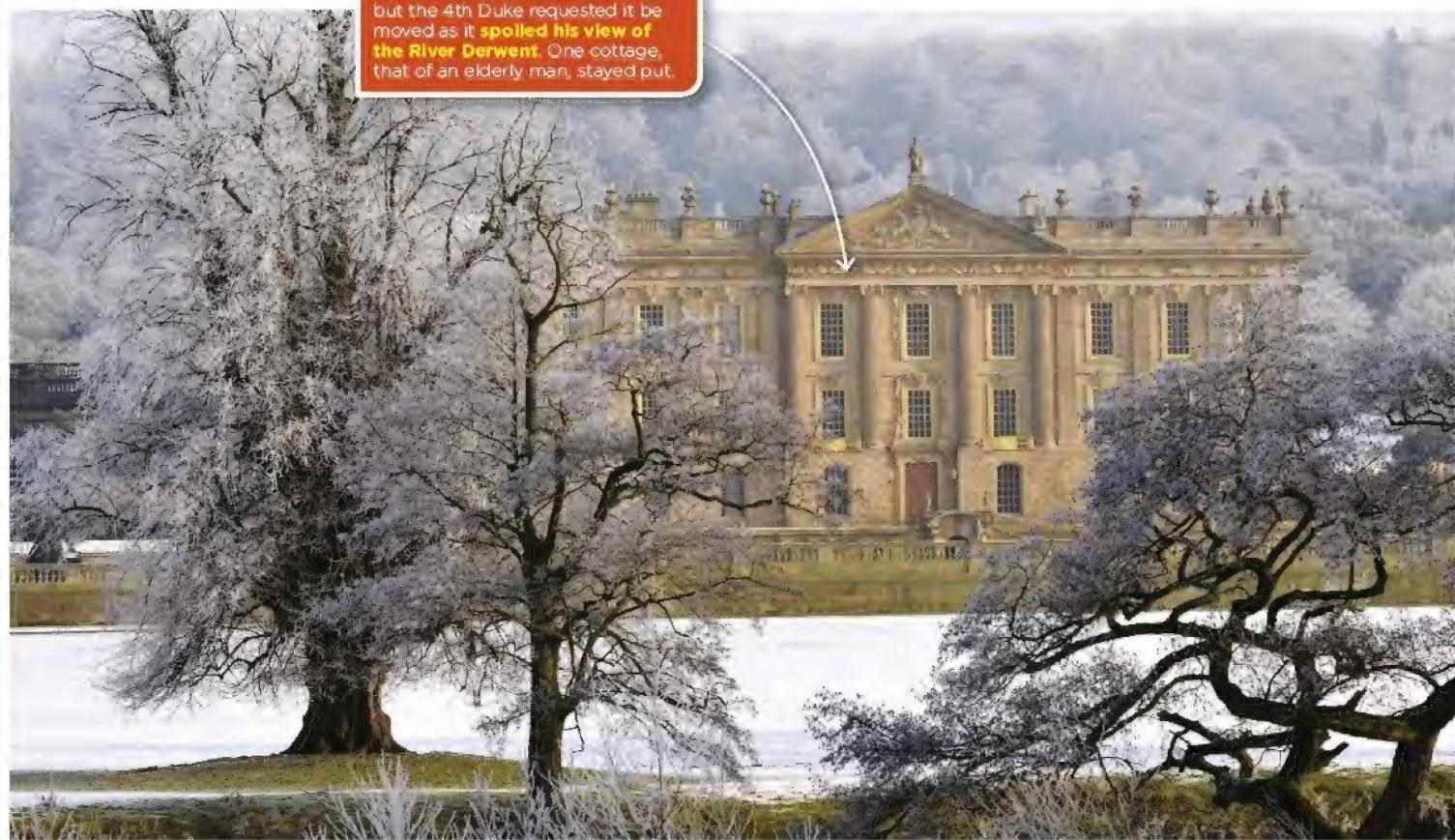
Thanks to the master builders at Brick to the Past, you can watch the Jacobite risings in Scotland come to life – by means of LEGO. One million bricks recreate the landscape of 18th-century Scotland, featuring mountains, rivers and wildlife. Two thousand LEGO soldiers disturb the peace, but what surprises will you find among this colourful scene?



A voluntary team of LEGO enthusiasts and history buffs painstakingly built the 6x3-metre scene

► ALSO LOOK OUT FOR

- **Outing the Past** – Learn more about LGBT+ history from the people who lived through it, Birmingham Museum and Gallery, 24 February www.bit.ly/2o10iMp
- **Codebreakers and Groundbreakers** – Meet the boffins who cracked the Enigma code and more, Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, until 4 February www.bit.ly/2aISlbt

**MOVE ALONG, PLEASE**

The village of Edensor used to stand much closer to the house, but the 4th Duke requested it be moved as it **spoiled his view of the River Derwent**. One cottage, that of an elderly man, stayed put.

BRITAIN'S TREASURES... CHATSWORTH HOUSE

Derbyshire

The inspiration behind Jane Austen's Pemberley is a feast for the eyes, including magnificent paintings, sculpture, decoration and an ornate garden to boot

GETTING THERE:
If you're driving and using the M1, come off at Junction 29, and follow the brown signs directing you to Chatsworth. Public buses also run from Sheffield station, and local buses can be caught to Chatsworth from the local town of Bakewell.

OPENING TIMES AND PRICES:
The house is closed until 24 March, but the park is still open from 11am until 5.30pm every day.

FIND OUT MORE:
Visit www.chatsworth.org or call 01246 565300.

Fans of *Pride and Prejudice* may recognise Chatsworth House as a stand-in for Pemberley, at which the Austen heart-throb Mr Darcy resides. It's said the author was staying in Derbyshire when she wrote the novel, and used Chatsworth as inspiration. But this 16th-century mansion is much more than that. Having been selected as the UK's favourite country house many times, visitors are sure to find something besides romance to enthrall them, in its architecture, collections and beautifully landscaped parkland.

The house sits in a valley on the banks of the River Derwent, at the heart of the Peak District. This scenic site has been important since ancient times – the land is mentioned in the Domesday Book as being the property of the crown. In 1549, though, the land was sold to William Cavendish, the Treasurer of the King's Chamber. His wife, Bess of Hardwick, was a formidable figure in Elizabethan society, with an eye for great architecture. It was she who built the first house at Chatsworth, an Elizabethan masterpiece with ample gardens.

Later on in the Cavendish family line, though, the 1st Duke of Devonshire decided that the 16th-century mansion was no longer adequate for his needs. Thankfully, he loved construction, so his home became his passion project. Adding a swish new frontage and some beautifully symmetrical baroque gardens, he died in 1707, soon after the work was finished.

In the mid-1700s, the Cavendish-in-residence, the 4th Duke, believed Chatsworth needed upgrading again to keep in line with current trends. For the gardens, Cavendish brought



The west side of Chatsworth House overlooks the River Derwent. No wet-shirted Mr Darcys here, though - you'll have to go to Lyme Park for that (see box)

WHAT TO LOOK FOR...



PAINTED HALL

One of the 4th Duke's designs, this opulent hall is surrounded by murals depicting the life of Julius Caesar. The stairway takes you up to the State Rooms.



THE CASCADES

Originally built in 1696, this water feature has been voted the best in England. It trickles over 24 sets of steps, and the water makes a different sound at each one.



STATE ROOMS

Built in optimistic anticipation that William of Orange and his queen Mary would soon come, this suite is Chatsworth's grandest. Sadly, the King and Queen never came.



EMPEROR FOUNTAIN

Later hoping that the Tsar of Russia would visit Chatsworth, the 6th Duke built the world's highest fountain. But nor did the Tsar make it to the house.



GREAT CHAMBER

The largest room within the State Rooms is this Great Chamber, which features an incredible painted ceiling by Baroque master Antonio Verrio.



SENSORY GARDEN

A modern development, this garden focuses on plants that have a unique impact on our five senses, including sound, sight, smell, touch and even taste.

“Visitors are sure to find something besides romance”

in a rising landscape artist – Capability Brown – to design them. Replacing the organised layout of the Baroque gardens, he opted for a more ‘natural’ look, paying homage to the beautiful countryside around Chatsworth. This shot Brown to fame, and many of the UK’s finest houses still have gardens designed by this acclaimed gardener.

CHANGING ROOMS

The 6th Duke of Devonshire was a thoroughly modern man, and loved to collect valuable items, from books to plants. When he inherited Chatsworth in the 1810s, he transformed the palace to the great home it is today, with plenty of rooms for his prized possessions. Among his projects

was a Sculpture Gallery, which he filled with masterpieces from the Ancient Greek and Roman world. For his plants, he built a special conservatory, which grew a variety of exotic plants.

He also loved to host family and friends in the huge house, so Chatsworth earned itself a raucous reputation. Formal dinners were followed by cigars, charades and music. The future Queen Victoria had her first formal dinner at the house when she was aged just 13.

But this extravagance could not last long, and the next Duke was far more economical. Continuing into the 20th century, some of Chatsworth’s treasures were sold to help the Cavendish family coffers, including valuable Shakespeare first editions.

Despite this, by the 1950s, the Cavendish family were still in a sticky financial situation, as inheritance taxes and death duties had skyrocketed.

In 1981, to preserve the house for future generations, the 11th Duke and Duchess opened the house to the public, realising it could bring in considerable and permanent revenue. The Chatsworth House Trust fundraises and runs the mansion on behalf of the family. Visitor numbers have increased since 2005, when Keira Knightley featured in a blockbuster adaptation of *Pride and Prejudice*, and Chatsworth resumed its starring role as Pemberley. Its appeal endures, and in 2016, over 620,000 visitors came to see this beautifully unique house. ☺

WHY NOT VISIT...

The Peak District has plenty of other historical landmarks to keep you entertained

POOLE'S CAVERN

In Buxton, a town famous for its mineral water, explore this two-million-year-old cave, where you'll find stalagmites and stalactites galore.
www.pooleescavern.co.uk

HARDWICK HALL

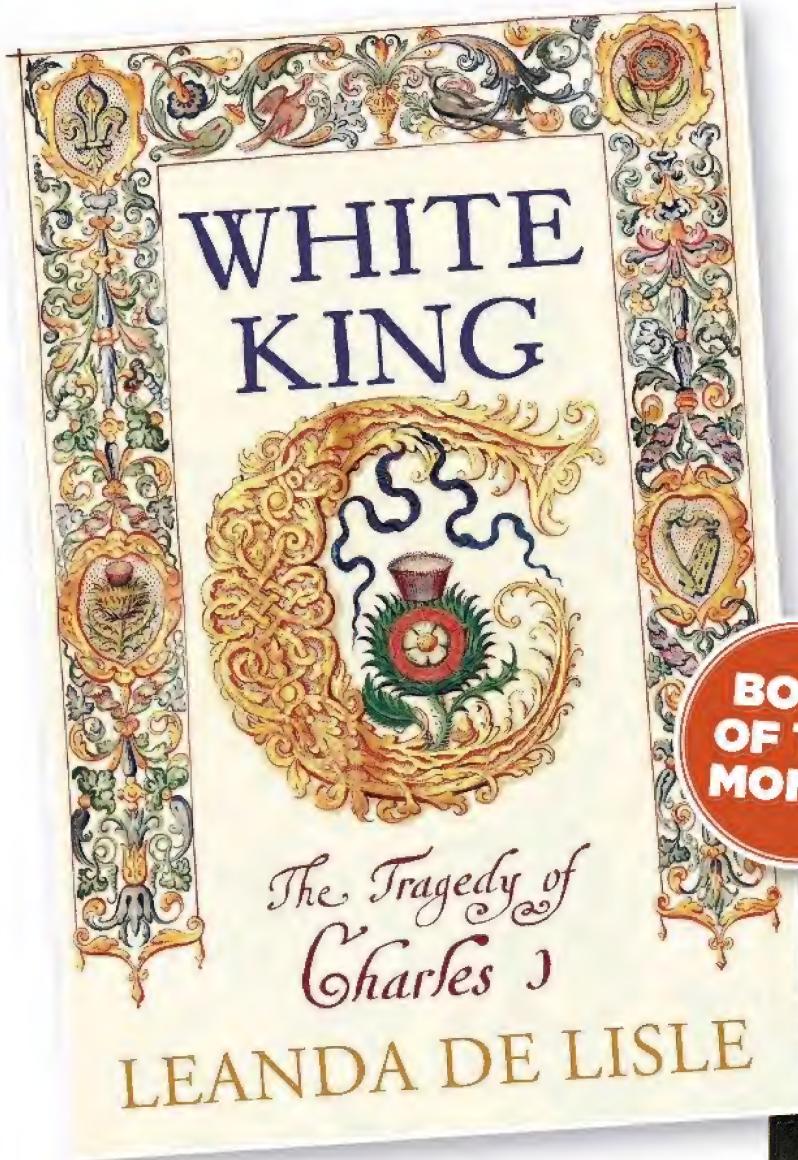
See another home of Bess of Hardwick, an Elizabethan period piece that was described as “more glass than wall” by locals.
www.blt.ltd/2BR0GZ

LYME PARK

If you're curious to see the place where Colin Firth's definitive Mr Darcy took a dip in the ponds, check out this Palladian house in Cheshire.
www.blt.ltd/2dU1P1

BOOKS

This month's best historical reads



“In private, Charles had always been very different from his chilly and regal public persona”

White King: The Tragedy of Charles I

By Leanda de Lisle

Chatto and Windus, £20, hardback, 432 pages

Charles I doesn't always get the best rap. Incompetent, unable to compromise, physically and mentally weak – those are just some of the criticisms levelled against a monarch who did, after all, meet a rather sticky end on the executioner's block in 1649. Yet, argues historian and broadcaster Leanda de Lisle, this is all rather unfair. In her new book, she sets out to tell a very different story: of a tragic king, flawed but multi-faceted, vilified yet three-dimensional. And, just as she broadens out Charles's character, so too does she paint a complex portrait of a court and a reign gripped by political and military unrest.



The King and his wife Henrietta Maria, “damned as a seductive Eve to Charles's Adam, leading the King astray”, says de Lisle

MEET THE AUTHOR

What inspired *White King*'s author **Leanda de Lisle** to take up the cause of one of Britain's most poorly regarded monarchs, and what new insights did her research reveal?

How do you think Charles I is often perceived, and why did you want to change that perception?

In popular memory, Charles is recalled as a failed monarch, executed at the hands of his own subjects. This has made him unappealing to readers – but I wanted to reveal the flesh-and-blood man behind the myths.

A brave, resilient and principled king, Charles's fate has all the elements of classical Greek tragedy. His ruin followed not from wickedness, but from ordinary human flaws and misjudgments. For all the hate that he engendered, he inspired great loyalty and he died loved – in a way that his son, the cynical, merry Charles II, would never be.

What impression do you have of his wife, Henrietta Maria?

Since antiquity, women have been judged to be creatures of emotion, not reason. Henrietta Maria's reputation is trapped in such sexist attitudes. Even as a mature woman, she is depicted as having the political grasp of a hysterical child. It is also women who, in myth, brought evil into the world, and Henrietta Maria is damned as a seductive Eve to Charles's Adam, leading the King astray.

My research led me to lost royal letters that give a voice to a very different woman: a "lovely creature" with a "brilliant mind", who was as remarkable as any of the wives of Henry VIII.

Are there any characters from this era who have been unfairly overlooked?

The impression many people have of Charles's reign is of a very masculine story. In my book, key female figures take their rightful place alongside the men. Among them is the court beauty Lucy, Countess of Carlisle. A descendant of Henry VIII's mistress Mary Boleyn, she was

a significant political player in her own right, and also important as one of a group of highly influential cousins. My favourite of these is Henry Rich, Earl of Holland, who, like Lucy, proved to be both friend and enemy to the royal couple, their fates linked to those of their master and mistress.

What are the key events of your story, and do they have any parallels today?

White King opens with Charles leading his kingdoms into Europe's Thirty Years' War in defence of his sister, Elizabeth Stuart, the 'Winter Queen' of Bohemia. It was a popular cause. But military failures abroad, and Charles's reform of the Church of England at home, led to a breakdown in trust between King and parliament.

These events are underpinned by ideas about power and faith that have a very modern resonance: one in which populist politicians fuel division, and where the theory of divine-right kingship is part of a verbal war on religious justifications for terror. When the Scots rebelled against Charles's church reforms in 1639, a faction in England sided with the Scots and took control of parliament. The situation deteriorated

into bloody civil war. After Charles's eventual defeat, he was put on trial as a traitor and murderer, found guilty and executed. Many supporters, however, viewed him in death as 'a martyr of the people'.

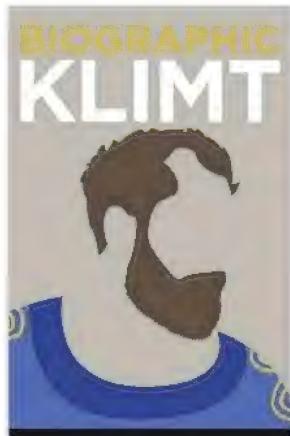
Misogynistic attacks on a vilified queen, a fast-moving new media, populist appeals to bigotry, foreign fighters and civil wars, the hopes of a different future – all make this an epic story that speaks to our times.



Lucy Carlisle, a key player in court machinations, is one of the female figures brought to the fore in de Lisle's new book



"His ruin came not from wickedness, but from ordinary human flaws and misjudgments"

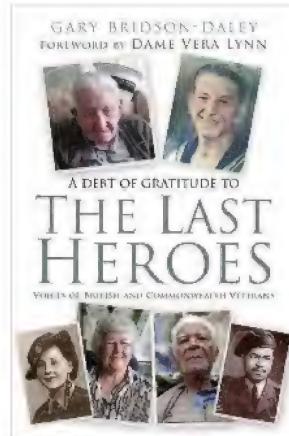


Biographic Klimt

By Viv Croot

Ammonite Press, £9.99, hardback, 96 pages

Part of a new series profiling history's most creative people in a bold, visual way, this slim volume tackles 19th-century Austrian painter Gustav Klimt. Through timelines, infographics and more, it offers an instant primer on an influential life and career. Other titles delve into the minds of individuals including Rembrandt, Coco Chanel and – something of an outlier – Winston Churchill.

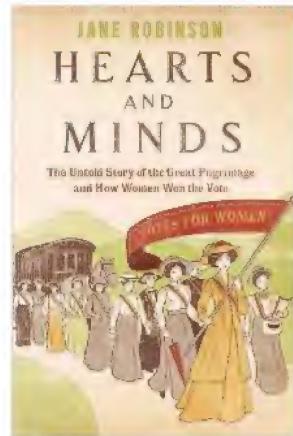


The Last Heroes: Voices of British and Commonwealth Veterans

By Gary Bridson-Daley

The History Press, £20, hardback, 288 pages

As time goes on and we move further away from World War II, it becomes ever more important to preserve the voices of those who took part. This collection of interviews lets several tell their own stories, in their own way, and provides a valuable humanist counterpoint to other, more epic accounts.

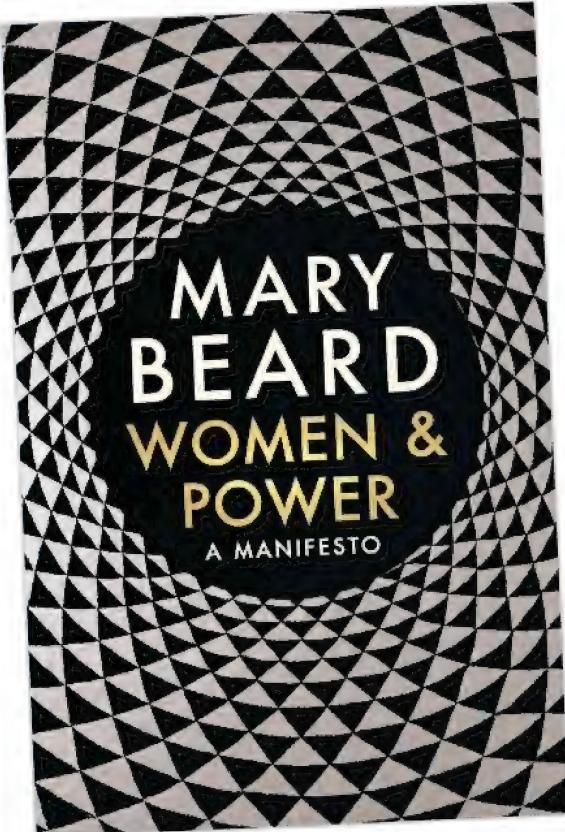


Hearts and Minds: The Untold Story of the Great Pilgrimage

By Jane Robinson

Doubleday, £20, hardback, 400 pages

This lively book charts the route to the pivotal moment in 1918 when women (partially) won the right to vote, introducing us to some of the people who agitated for change. As their Great Pilgrimage wends its way to London, it highlights what they won – and what they had to give up in doing so.



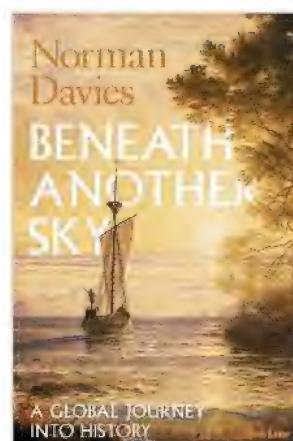
Women and Power: A Manifesto

By Mary Beard

Profile Books, £7.99, hardback, 128 pages

The latest book from classicist Mary Beard considers how powerful women have been treated across millennia. Figures from the dim past of antiquity rub shoulders with very contemporary individuals (Theresa May and Hillary Clinton both put in appearances). As its subtitle suggests, it's strident, and won't be for everyone, but it's an important, thought-provoking look at how misogyny has been with us for a long, long time.

“Strident and thought-provoking”

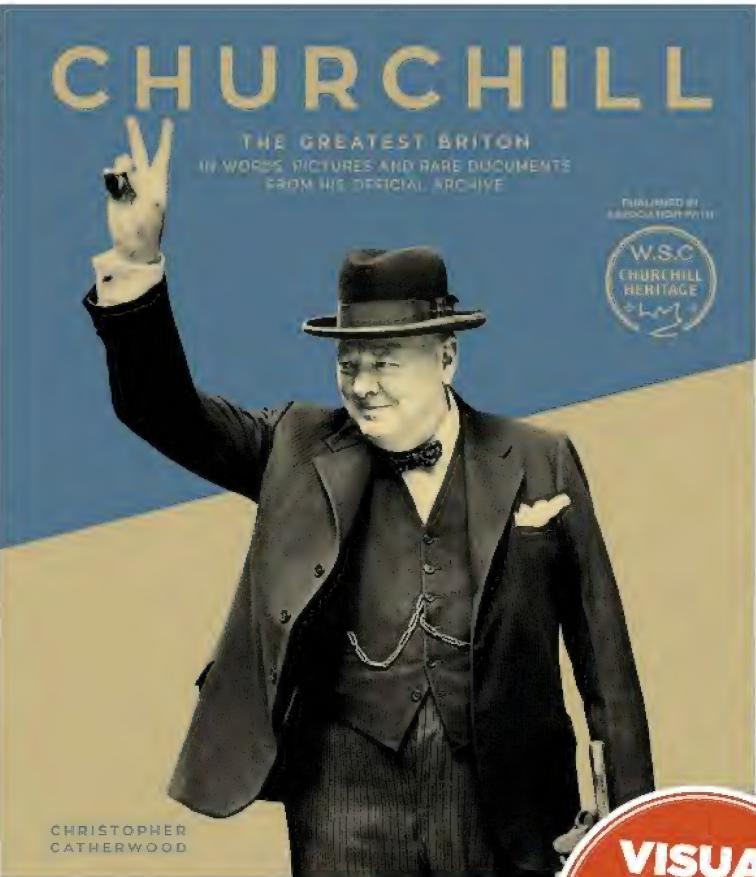


Beneath Another Sky: A Global Journey into History

By Norman Davies

Allen Lane, £22.99, hardback, 768 pages

An eccentric, entertaining book combining history with travelogue, this follows the author as he travels to an array of nations, exploring how the past rears its head in the present. By turns beguiling and bewildering – in a good way – it's a real one-off.



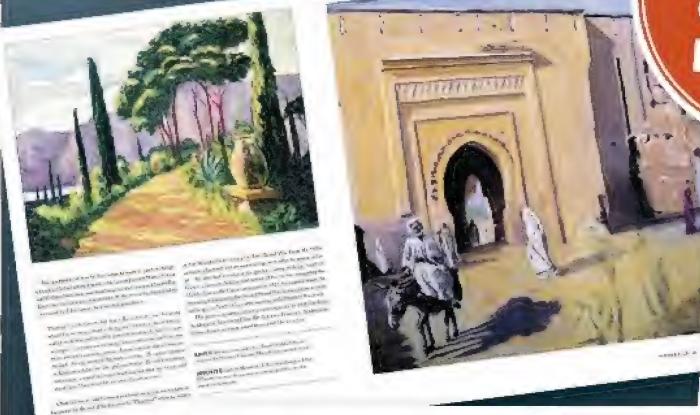
VISUAL
BOOK
OF THE
MONTH

Churchill

By Christopher Catherwood
Andre Deutsch, £20, hardback, 160 pages

Another month, another book on Winston Churchill, this one offering a very visual overview of his life and times. All of the incarnations are here – schoolboy, soldier, statesman – with copious photos and brief contextual paragraphs to keep the story moving. First published in 2012, this is an enthusiastic take on a story that bears retelling.

“All of the incarnations are here – schoolboy, soldier, statesman – with copious photos”



Catherwood's pictorial biography includes Churchill's days as a war reporter, as a politician on both sides of parliament and, of course, as Britain's wartime leader, including rare items from his family archive

Churchill the Innovator

Churchill's political career, from his days as a Member of Parliament to his time as Prime Minister, was marked by his innovative ideas. He was a pioneer of modern democracy, and his policies helped to bring about many changes over the course of his life.

In his political career, Churchill was a pioneer of modern democracy. He was a champion of free speech and a strong advocate for civil rights. He was a leader in the fight against fascism and a champion of democracy. He was a leader in the fight against fascism and a champion of democracy.



POSTCARDS FROM THE PAST

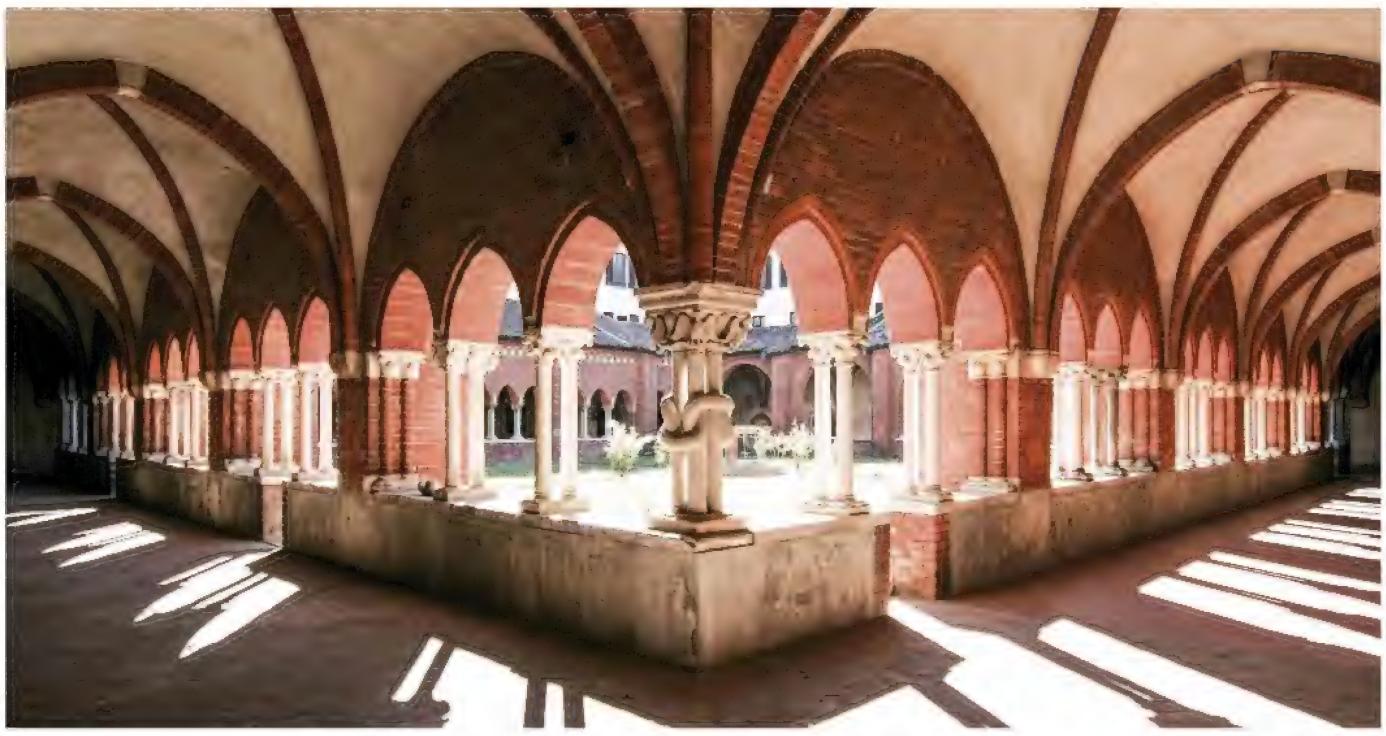
Send your historical landmark photos to photos@historyrevealed.com – and follow us on Instagram [@historyrevmag](https://www.instagram.com/historyrevmag)

PERSEPOLIS, IRAN

“ This photo was taken at the Gate of All Nations, the ancient entryway to the epic 2,500-year-old, World Heritage city of Persepolis in south-western Iran. More than two millennia have passed since it was the thriving ceremonial capital of the Persian king, Darius I. Having spent most of the afternoon exploring the spectacular hillside ruins in the company of a local guide, we made our way back to our favourite spot – still the epic entryway to the city – and settled in to capture a moment at this timeless site in the beautiful late-afternoon light. ”

Taken by: John and Danielle Harrigan  [@twofortheworld](https://www.instagram.com/twofortheworld)





CLOISTER OF CHIARAVALLE ABBEY, MILAN, ITALY

“ Chiaravalle Abbey was built in the 13th century, and the Great Cloister, pictured here, was built 200 years later by Renaissance architects Bramante and Giovanni Antonio Amadeo. Noteworthy are the four ‘knotted’ columns on the northwest side of the cloister (centre). The bond is a symbol of Christ’s human and divine duality, as well as of the Father and the Son united by the Holy Spirit. ”

Taken by: Anna Guazzotti



BORGUND STAVE CHURCH, NORWAY

“ I visited this church on a road trip around Norway, travelling between Flám and Oslo. It is made entirely from wood resting on stone foundations and the outside is tarred to preserve the materials, which gives it its black appearance. It’s smaller than I expected, but perfectly formed, with beautiful, intricate carvings inside and out. I love the tiered roof and dragons. ”

Taken by: Rosie Watts

FEELING INSPIRED?

Send your snaps to us and we’ll feature a selection every issue.
photos@historyrevealed.com

READERS' LETTERS

Get in touch – share your opinions on history and our magazine

OPPRESSOR OR HERO?

In your Collector's Edition *Kings & Queens of Britain*, you post a question at the end of the article about Boudicca, the warrior queen of the Iceni tribe – 'How should Boudicca be treated by history?'.

I am an admirer of strong-willed women and that's coming from a man. I believe – given the small account of her life in our history – that Boudicca should be viewed

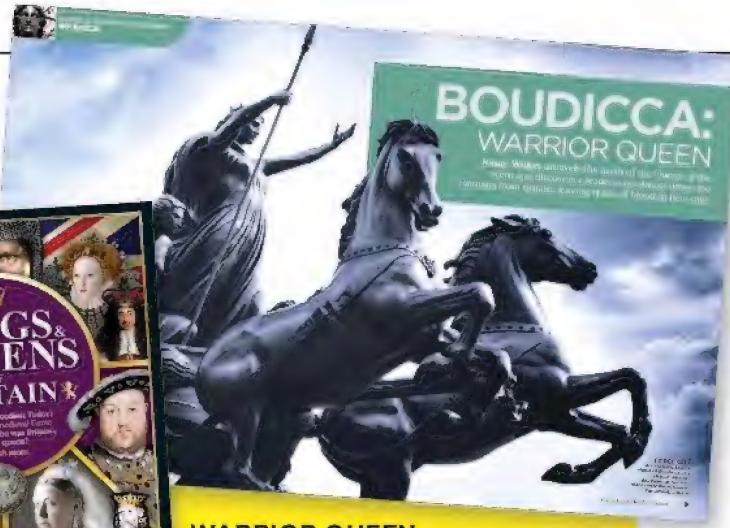
LETTER OF THE MONTH

Also, it depends on the context of the times. Back then, to the native tribes she was a hero locked in a battle with a conquering force. If the Romans didn't

"Boudicca should be viewed as both the oppressor and the valiant hero to her people"

as both the oppressor and valiant hero to her people. History is viewed not just by the victors but both sides.

act so unforgivably, she would have never taken things so personally. To the Romans, she was a troublemaker who was



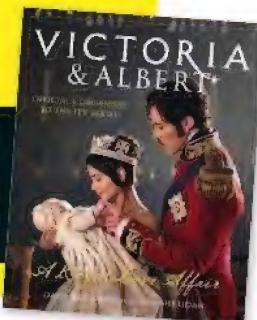
WARRIOR QUEEN

Paul does not think that Boudicca was either the brutal killer or the freedom fighter – she was both

fighter against the oppression should be the answer.

Paul
Romanowski,
via email

Paul wins a copy of *Victoria & Albert: the Official Companion to the ITV Series* by Daisy Goodwin and Sara Sheridan (2017). Through letters and diaries, as well as interviews with the cast of the hit show, the book explores how the royal couple broke the mould and came to define the nation – and history.



Delighted to receive my copy of @HistoryRevMag If ever you need proof that history turns on a sixpence, read '50 Decisions' (Christmas 2017) @TracyBorman

STILL FORGOTTEN

As much as I enjoyed being reminded of what Britain could do when we had an army of sufficient size to make

a difference anywhere, Julian Humphrys cannot possibly write a full account of the Korean War (Britain's Forgotten War, January 2018) without mentioning one of the other soldiers awarded a Victoria Cross during the action (other than Lieutenant Colonel James Carne). Has that also been forgotten because he was an 'other rank'? That soldier was William (Bill) Speakman and he was the first VC awarded by Queen Elizabeth II.

I had the pleasure of meeting Bill whilst serving in Borneo, where he was with the King's Own Scottish Borderers at Nanga Gaat, Kapit, Sarawak.

A giant of a man in both stature and personality.
Brian Leighton, Ex-110 Sqdn Royal Air Force,
via email

Editor's reply:

Thank you for getting in touch, Brian, to highlight the deeds of Private Bill Speakman. As much as we want to include everybody's incredible stories and achievements, we don't always have the space, so Bill's service didn't get the attention it deserved. I assure you that it was nothing to do with his rank. As the last living VC holder from that campaign, his sacrifices and courage should never be forgotten – and that is much the same for all of his comrades.

A TREAT IN CRETE

Reading about Greg Jenner's desire to see the Minoan ruins at Knossos (Your History, January 2018) reminded me of my own sense of wonderment standing there, imagining people going about their daily routines so

KOREA: BRITAIN'S FORGOTTEN WAR

Julian Humphrys tells the story of Britain's involvement in Korea that has never actually officially ended



KOREAN WAR HERO

Our feature wanted to address Britain's forgotten war, but Brian points out that we still forgot something!

Alison Weir says Henry VIII's break with Rome was down to misunderstanding canon law (50 Decisions, Christmas 2017). Think his desire for a son with Anne Boleyn was the cause and he would never have accepted a papal authority that didn't support this ambition. [@whittake7](#)

long ago. Such a beautiful place to visit and experience ghosts of the past. Spinalonga was equally profound, but for altogether darker reasons. People wishing to immerse themselves in poignant and interesting history should visit Crete.

Liam Ashcroft, via email

OUT OF TUNE

I enjoyed reading 'The Little Book of Christmas Answers' (Christmas 2017), but I must take you to task on an incomplete answer to the best-selling Christmas song of all time. Your answer is the best-selling in the UK, but your answer makes it sound as if it's the best-selling, when worldwide it's Bing Crosby's *White Christmas*.

Paul Winstone, via email

Editor's reply:

You're absolutely right, Paul. *White Christmas* is indeed the best-selling Christmas single of all time, and not only that, it's also the best-selling among all genres, with in excess of 50 million copies sold.

SUPER SHELLEY

Thank you for the excellent piece on Mary Shelley (Frankenstein's Mother, November 2017), which I found interesting. She is a true heroine, as worthy of being on a bank note as Jane Austen and Winston Churchill, I might add. She had an all too short but remarkable life. Her great

Really enjoyed the '50 Decisions' article, and the facts in 'The Little Book of Christmas Answers' pullout will come in very handy over the festive season! (Christmas 2017) [@RobertFingleton](#)



FRANKENSTEIN'S MOTHER

Mary Shelley is just as deserving to have her face on the money as Jane Austen, according to our reader Jennifer

work, *Frankenstein*, is not only a classic but in many ways the founder of a whole genre of literature and popular culture. It's amazing to think she was also the daughter of remarkable parents and the wife of a gifted poet. The nation is in their debt. **Jennifer Shelden**, Leicester

CALIGULA: ALL BAD?

I thought that Philip Matyszak's feature on Caligula (Was his tyranny all in the mind?, January 2018) was fascinating. It's so well established in popular history that he was this sadistic, deranged psychopath – who made his favourite horse a consul and is regularly named as the worst emperor Rome ever had – but the feature tried to get away from the biased histories

I was excited to hear that the colourised photographs of [@marinamaral2](#) were to feature in *@HistoryRevMag*. I've been following her for a while and wasn't disappointed it really gives a contemporary feel to historical events! [@rigbycf](#)

written by people like Suetonius and really explore Caligula's state of mind. I'm not saying he was a nice guy, by any means, but maybe misunderstood.

Sally Taylor, via email

The Parliamentarian decision to advance and deploy at Winceby without infantry support was aggressive, but, with hindsight, it was correct as it set the conditions for the Royalist defeat. (50 Decisions, Christmas 2017)
@PushofPike1642

ARE YOU A WINNER?

The lucky winners of the crossword from issue 50 are: **Stephen Kloppe**, Croydon; **Tony Herbert**, Leicester; **R Beckett**, London

Congratulations! You've each won a copy of *Victoria & Albert*, RRP £20. The official companion to the popular ITV series delves deeper into the royal couple's passionate relationship, examining their personal correspondence.

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Bringing the past to life

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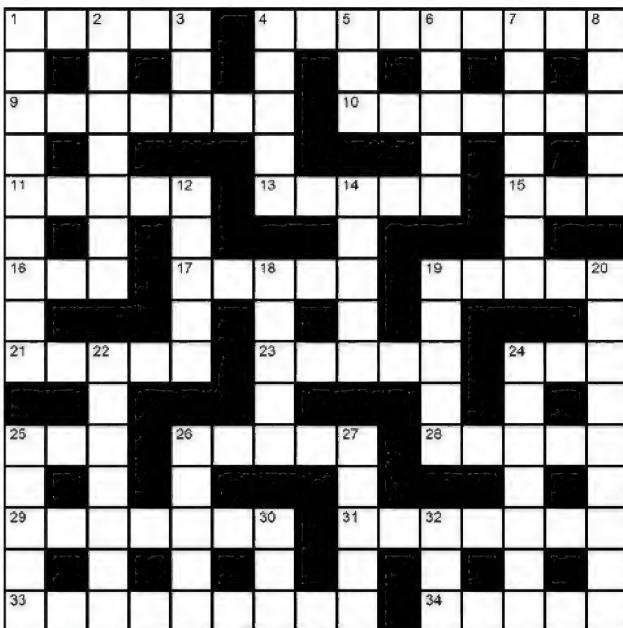
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CROSSWORD N° 52

Test your history knowledge to solve our prize puzzle – and you could win a fantastic prize!

Set by Richard Smyth



ACROSS

1 Fool in the Shakespeare comedy *Twelfth Night* (5)
4 ___ Maria (1609–69), queen consort of Charles I (9)
9 'The ___', one of the William Pitts or Pieter Bruegels (7)
10 In Ancient Greece, the goddess of retribution (7)
11 Pedro ___ (1502–78), Portuguese mathematician and geographer (5)
13 Legendary misanthrope of Ancient Athens (5)
15 City in southeast Nigeria, site of a British military outpost from 1901 (3)
16 Familiar initialism for the 35th President of the USA (3)
17 Titus ___, priest who fabricated the Popish Plot (5)

19 "The key of ___ is London" – Benjamin Disraeli, 1881 (5)
21 Old Testament name for the city of Babylon (5)
23 Island awarded the George Cross in 1942 (5)
24 Molecule discovered in 1953 by Crick and Watson (3)
25 The 21st letter of the Greek alphabet (3)
26 Celebrated physician of Ancient Greece (5)
28 Mythical sorceress who transformed Odysseus's men into pigs (5)
29 Branch of maths associated with Muslim scholar Al-Khwarizmi (d. cAD 850) (7)
31 The third of Rome's 'Five Good Emperors' (7)
33 1922 vampire film (9)

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The competition is open to all UK residents (inc. Channel Islands), aged 18 or over, except Immediate Media Co Bristol Ltd employees or contractors, and anyone connected with the competition or their direct family members. By entering, participants agree to be bound by these terms and conditions and that their name and county may be released if they win. Only one entry per person.

The closing date and time is as shown under **How to Enter**, above. Entries received after that will not be considered. Entries cannot be returned. Entrants must supply full name, address and daytime phone number. Immediate Media Company (publishers of *History Revealed*) will only ever use personal details for the purposes of administering this competition, and will not publish them or provide them to anyone without permission. Read more about the Immediate Privacy Policy at www.immediatemedia.co.uk/privacy-policy.

34 Carl ___ (1934–96), American astronomer and prolific science writer (5)

DOWN

1 On a ship, a secondary triangular staysail (6,3)
2 Name shared by three USSR satellites launched between 1957 and 1958 (7)
3 Objet d'art for which Peter Carl Fabergé was known (3)
4 Geoff ___ (b.1941), World Cup-winning footballer (5)
5 Anaïs ___ (1903–77), French-born author and diarist (3)
6 Henry ___ (1801–46), US portrait painter (5)
7 Marie ___ (1761–1850), French wax modeller (7)
8 The daughter of Abu Bakr and wife of Muhammad (5)
12 Korean city, residence of the Joseon dynasty (5)
14 City in Iraq, over the Tigris from Ancient Nineveh (5)
18 ___ Tigers, Sri Lankan revolutionary group (5)
19 In the Old Testament, the son of Abraham and Sarah (5)
20 King of Argos or Mycenae, brother to Menelaus (9)
22 Robert ___ (1844–1940), made Poet Laureate in 1913 (7)
24 Grace ___ (1815–42), lighthouse keeper's daughter famed for her 1838 rescue (7)
25 Cities of the ___, group of five cities including Sodom and Gomorrah (5)
26 Clark ___ (1901–60), American film star known as 'The King of Hollywood' (5)
27 Jawaharlal ___ (1889–1964), first prime minister of an independent India (5)
30 ___ Khan, title of the Imam of the Nizari Ismailis (3)
32 ___ Pater, Roman god of the infernal regions (3)

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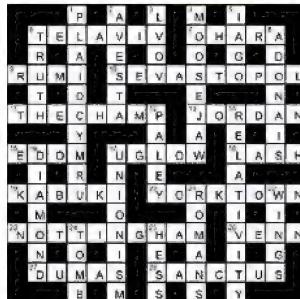


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SOLUTION N° 50



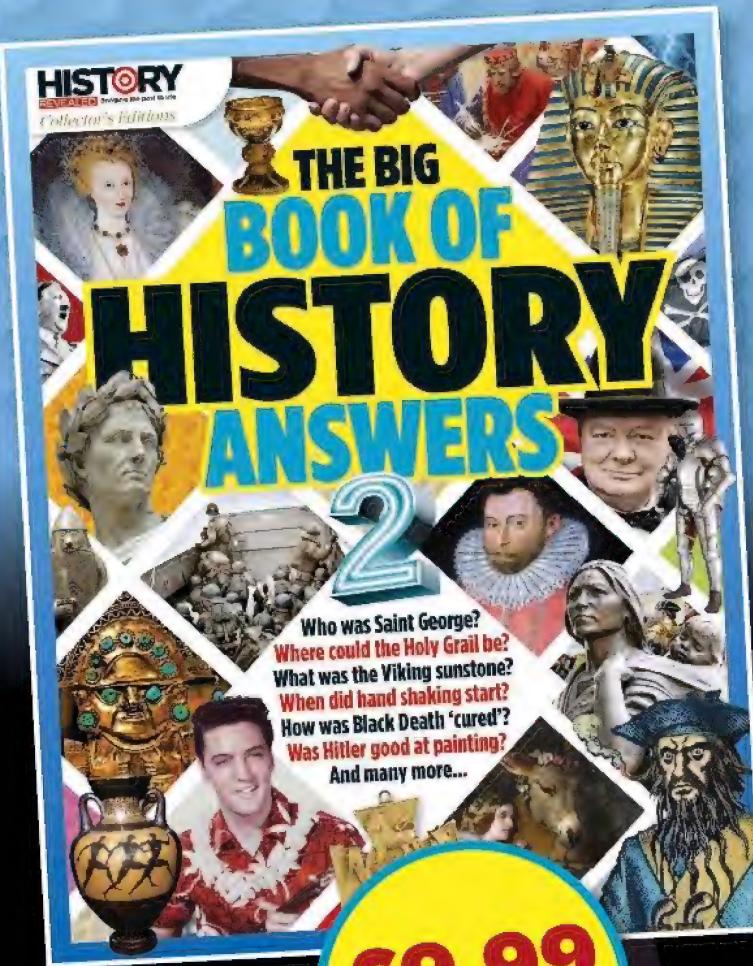
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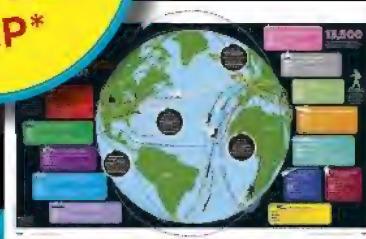
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Troops from the 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines, fall back drained and hurting after failing to take a strategic position from North Vietnamese forces. With American presence in Vietnam escalating throughout 1966, so is the number of photojournalists capturing the horrors of the war. This image was taken by Englishman Larry Burrows, who did what he could to experience the life of a soldier by living in military camps and remaining on the front lines during fighting. He was killed in 1971, while covering the South Vietnamese invasion of Laos, when his helicopter was shot down.



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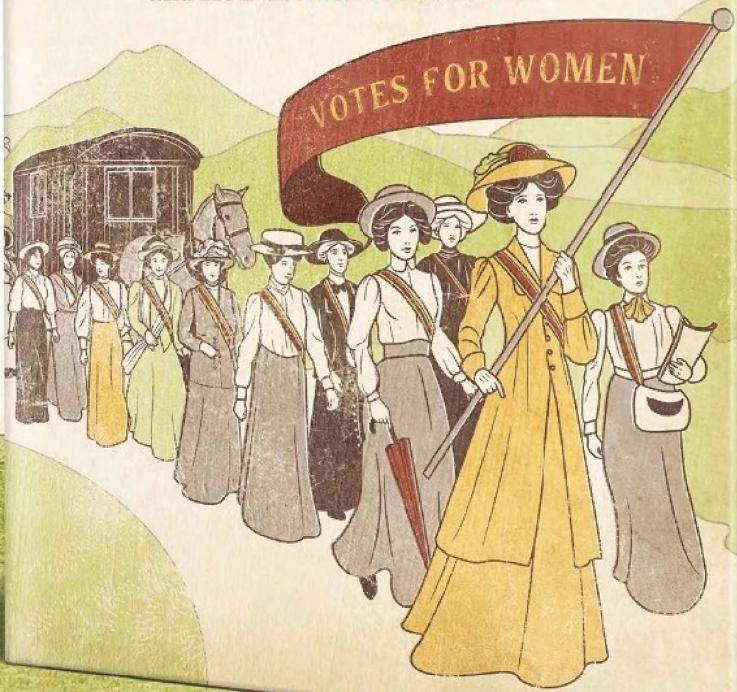
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